

The Problem With Clocks

by caitycaterpillar

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Summary: Rin is transported to Berk by Mephisto's malfunctioning Coo-coo clock. When he gets there he is faced with hostile inhabitants, fire breathing dragons and a language barrier. How in the world is he supposed to get out and back to Japan before these 'vikings' decide that he's too much to handle?

1. That damn clock

****Disclaimer:-** I don't own How To Train Your Dragon or Blue Exorcist******

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Rin sighed as he walked across the hot paving that lead to the True Cross main campus. The weather was unbareably hot and did nothing more but make Rin want to return to the dorm but he had a job to do.

It was payday today. The day that Mephisto would give him and Yukio their monthly allowance as well as any extra money Yukio might've gotten from his teaching job. Normally Yukio would be the one to go and fetch the money but he had been busy grading papers so Rin was left with the task.

Rin sighed in relief when he walked into the cool air conditioned building and waved to the receptionist, she gave Rin a curt nod before going back to her work. As it was, Rin wasn't entirely sure what the woman's name was but he had been here enough times to know that as long as he didn't make noise, she would let him into the office without supervision.

Mephisto's office wasn't far from the entrance and Rin didn't have to walk far before he could see it. Rin didn't hesitate to push the overly decorated door open without knocking and just barged in.

"Hey Mephisto! I'm here for our allowance!" Rin called out only to find that the room was empty. Rin knit his eyebrows and checked behind the desk just to make sure that the clown wasn't hiding from him, he had done it before, before walking back to the reception desk.

"Hey lady. Mephisto's not there so what do I do now?" he asked and drooped over the woman's desk. The receptionist sighed, she didn't want Rin in her reception area but she wasn't sure on what to do with him. The boy was one of those odd figures that Sir Pheles liked to have around even though he caused trouble at every second step. She put down her pencil and got out her schedule book before doing a quick check.

"Sir Pheles is currently busy with a meeting but he should be back in about ten minutes. I'm sure he would not mind if you waited in his office for him as long as you do not touch any of his things." She was sure that the delinquent-looking boy could sit for ten minutes without ruining anything.

"Sure," Rin shrugged and turned away, "why not? Just be sure to tell the clown that I'm waiting."

Rin didn't wait to hear the usual drabble of how he 'shouldn't call Sir Pheles a clown' and walked back to the office. The office was huge and lushly decorated so Rin had no trouble in finding a comfortable spot to sit in. The problem with Mephisto's office was the annoying 'cooing' noise that sounded every now and then.

It wasn't that bad and easily ignored but Rin was hot and bothered and wanted to go home which made the sound all the more irritating. After a good five minutes of the grating sound Rin could take no more. He got up and started to search the room bit by bit, determined to find the source of the sound. If it was some pigeon that Mephisto caught, he'd roast it alive.

He eventually found where the noise was coming from in the form of a closed closet. Rin wasted no time in opening it only to regret it a moment later. The contents of the closet came rushing out like a metaphorical river and almost swept Rin away.

Rin sat in the mess in a daze for a second before sitting up and examining what exactly had knocked him over.

It seemed to be Mephisto's anime memorabilia with many other things mixed into the bunch. Things like frogs in jars, what seemed to be spices and many other blunted out weapons were scattered in between the DVD's, dolls and instant ramen. Rin put his hand on a shelf and tried to pull himself up only for it to break as soon as he put any weight on it. Something bounced off Rin's head and opened with a sickening pop!

Rin sat horrified for a moment before reaching over and taking the jar off his head. The contents of the jar seemed to be a jelly of sort and it was now running down Rin's head and dripping onto his shirt. 'Translator goop!' the jar read 'When subtitles fail, it never will!'

"It's a jar of fucking slime," Rin muttered as he tried to quickly

pull the goop from his hair, the stuff was disappearing into his scalp as he spoke. "How the hell is it supposed work better than subtitles?"

The _'cooing'_ sound came again and this time it was much louder. Rin's head snapped up, forgetting about the mess in his hair, and stared at the coo-coo clock in the closet.

It was huge!

It hardly fit into the small space it had been jammed into and Rin saw why everything else fell out. How did such a big thing fit into the small closet?! The beige monstrosity looked like some kid's ginger bread house that had been made bigger and into a clock. Sweets, balloons and a stuffed rabbit decorated it.

Rin reached out and touched the white doors of the clock, intending to lean in it to listen in, only for the doors to snap open. Rin jumped back and out of the mess of items just in time to miss being impaled by a white cuckoo wearing a purple bow and matching top hat.

The bird twitched spastically and the clocked _donged_ painfully out of tune. The cuckoo's head swiveled from side to side before Rin caught its eye. It then pulled its head back before opening its maw wider than it should have been able to and grabbed Rin.

The young exorcist had no time to try and free himself for he was already being drawn into the black abyss of the clock. He screamed as the doors shut behind him and the feeling of falling engulfed him.

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Hiccup sighed as he and Toothless flew through the skies. It was their patrol day and everyone with a dragon had to participate. He and Astrid were in a group together and were currently searching for abnormalities near The Cove. It was a surprisingly warm and beautiful day but here they were, not at home enjoying one of the few days that the sun _actually_ shone but instead patrolling the island for any peculiarities. _Fun!_

"Hey Hiccup!" Astrid called, "Why don't we land for a bit. The dragons have been flying for a while and I'm sure that they could go for a rest."

The dragons grumbled out agreements and Hiccup found himself following Astrid down in her descent. Toothless and Stormfly made unhappy noises when they flew into a cloud and got themselves wet but other than that it was a quick flight down. They landed in an open clearing and was about to dismount when a loud bell sounded out. The teen's heads snapped to the sky, thinking that it was a new dragon only for a huge box to appear and thrust something out of its open doors.

Whatever was thrown out landed with a crash and sent a huge cloud of dust into the air.

"What was that?" Astrid asked cautiously and drew her sword, she didn't dare dismount in fear of a new unknown dragon attacking

her.

"I don't know but I guess we'll have to see. Toothless?" Hiccup patted his dragon's side and the Night Fury complied with a strong beat of his wings. The wind generated cleared the air of the dust and allowed the two riders to see the coughing figure in the middle of a small crater perfectly.

It was a person. He looked to be their age had blue-ish black hair and was wearing odd clothing. He was wearing a light brown jacket that fit nicely on his body but didn't seem to be fur and blue pants, again, made of a material Hiccup didn't recognize. He also had a red bag strung across his back and Hiccup surmised that it held a sword of some sort.

"Hey!" Astrid called, "Are you okay?"

The newcomer's head snapped here direction before back peddling, "_Holy shit you're riding a salamander._"

Hiccup's eyebrows knit and he exchanged a look with Astrid. Okay, so he wasn't the only one.

The dark haired teen in front of them had spoken to them but in a language they didn't know. It wasn't English that the traders often spoke when they came to Berk or the occasional French that they had heard here and there but an entirely new language.

Hiccup made a move to dismount but Toothless growled at him. The young heir ceased all movement and eyed his dragon, "Toothless? What's wrong?"

The dragon ignored the hand on his head and prepared a plasma blast. "Toothless no!" Hiccup shouted but it was too late. The foreigner jumped to the side and shouted angrily in his language. Hiccup sucked in a breath when he saw what made Toothless so wary of the newcomer.

He had a tail that was waving angrily behind him, Slightly pointed ears and, now that he looked closer, he also had sharp teeth that glinted in the light every time he spoke angrily to them in that odd language of his.

"H-Hiccup? What- is he?" Astrid whispered as Stormfly got a few spines ready. The newcomer paused at her words before quickly trying to hide his tail and babbled endlessly in a frantic tone.

Hiccup could only stare as the newcomer then stopped and spoke angrily at Toothless, and to his greaatest surprise, for Toothless to warble back something in reply.

Sharp teeth, human looks, elfish ears, able to speak the language of dragons and most of all _a tail_. Hiccup could only think of one thing to call the being in front of him. The one creature that Hiccup hadn't searched for as a child. The one people would use to scare children to bed at night and was almost as hated as dragons were.

"He's a- a demon." Hiccup whispered in wonder and hardly noticed when the occupants of the clearing went odly still.

"You mean like those things that live in the Realm of Fire?" Astrid asked and turned to scrutinize the demon once more.

"Yeah," Hiccup nodded and leaned forward onto Toothless' head, "It's the only explanation I can come up with. I mean I read a lot about trolls and elves but not as much on demons. I _think_ its a demon though, I'm almost _sure_ it is."

Astrid nodded and then wasted no time in signalling for Stormfly to let loose a barrage of needles upon the demon. Hiccup's eyes widened in horror. _No!_ The demon had been passive before but now Astrid just gave it had reason to attack them. None of the spines hit the surprisingly fast demon, thankfully, but it still wasn't a clever move.

"Astrid!" Hiccup shouted and jumped off Toothless, much to the dragons chagrin, to stand in between Astrid and the demon. "Don't attack! We don't want a reason for him to see us as an enemy!"

But it was too late. The now riderless Toothless, let out a roar and rushed the demon. He grabbed both of the demon's shoulders in his claws and pinned him to the ground before gathering gas in his throat for a plasma blast. Hiccup watched in horror as the demon snarled at Toothless and set itself ablaze, not unlike what a Monsterous Nightmare would do. Toothless screeched and jumped off the demon, his claws and underbelly visibly scorched.

"Toothless!" Astrid shouted and sheathed here sword, she reached into her bag and pulled out one of the stone bola. With the grace of a warrior, Astrid threw the ball and net at the demon. The size was made for a dragon so, when the bola connected, one of the large stones collided with the demon's temple and rendered him unconscious.

Hiccup stared for a moment before walking over to the unmoving and bound demon. His temple was bleeding slightly and there was little doubt that he would have a massive head ache when he woke up.

"What did you two do!" He shouted and ran two hands through his hair, "Now its going to be extra mad when it wakes up!"

Astrid shrugged and dismounted, "What's your point?" She then proceeded to pick up the demons tail and give a small tug. The demon let out a small moan and Astrid let go of the tail as if it were a snake, "It really is attached to him. This guy really isn't human."

Hiccup could've screamed, "I thought that we already established that he wasn't human! As if the blue fire wasn't indication enough!"

Astrid waved him away, "Well then now that we know what he is, there's only one thing to do."

Hiccup's hands fell from his hair as he looked towards the female viking, "And what's that?"

Astrid gave him a smile that promised trouble for later and said, "We cant have a dangerous, _angry_ mythical being running around Berk now

can we?-"

"It's _your fault _he's angry!"

"So naturally, the only logical thing we can do is bring him back to the village of course." Astrid finished and Hiccup really did scream in frustration this time.

Why could vikings never leave what they didn't understand _alone._ And stop angering them in the process too!

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Okay so this was written in reply to a request from Miqu. Hope you guys liked it and if you did please check out my other stories. (I will update as soon as i get the files to work)

Now... explanations. For this story all dragon speak will be written normally when spoken to Rin and just sound like moans/snarls/screeches ect. the viking populus. And when a language is spoken that the POV character doesn't understand or speak normally, it will be written in *_**italics**_***. It's just to make sure that everything is somewhat realistic because really... Rin is Japanese, when in the world will he learn to speak Norse? **

Also in Norse mythology theres a realm called Muspelheim, that I have tailored to suit the needs of my story. In the actual stories its supposed to be some place where fire giants and such roam but here im going to make it into a psuedo-Gehenna.

Oh! and don't forget to review if you have any quaries and such. Reviews motivate me like *_**no ones**_*** business.**

2. The lesson he actually remembered

"Demons", Astrid huffed as she stomped her way over to the Kill Ring, "Of all the things to come across."

Quite frankly, Astrid was quite excited about meeting a new type of creature. Granted, even though nobody had ever met a demon in this day and age, they were as high up on the danger list as a deadly Venemous Vorpent. It would be interesting to see what the sucker was made of.

Everyone knew the stories of the creatures that tricked you and lead you astray before killing you in the most gruesome ways but nobody ever expected to meet one. They were thought to be extinct but that never changed the fact that this thing was a danger.

The whole village had been in uproar about the demons presence and wanted to see it killed immediately but Hiccup had argued against this. He had spoken about how it was _us_ who attacked _it_ and that others might come to avenge its fallen comrade.

It was a good point and everyone knew that Hiccup was the smartest person in the village so they reluctantly agreed. Preparations were made and the village elder was brought in to bless the metal chains and doors that surrounded the Kill Ring. The unconscious demon had been placed in there and it was only until after that Astrid

remembered that she had wanted to take its sword from it. It wouldn't be good if the thing suddenly woke up and started slashing it's way through the village.

So here she was, walking across the bridge that lead to the ring. Hiccup was already waiting at the gate for her, she had called ahead of time. He was the one chosen to care for the beast since he stood up for it and because of that, he was the only one who held the keys to the ring.

"You know Astrid, I still don't think that this is a good idea." Hiccup whined and Toothless, who was hanging from the poles above, moaned in agreement.

"Oh keep quiet. We have to remove all of the things it can use against us, right? And besides, I want to see what kind of weapon a demon uses. I'm sure it's top quality." Astrid peaked through the metal gate at the ever still figure of the demon lying in the middle. She waved her hand absentmindedly, never taking her eyes off the demon. "Now hurry up and open it before it wakes up."

Hiccup stared at her for a moment longer before groaning and waking over to unlock the gate. He knew she was right but he didn't like it. Once the gate was opened Astrid quietly walked over to the demon, aware that Hiccup and Toothless had followed her in, and crouched down.

The demon's sword was relatively easy to pull free once the binds that had been holding it had been loosened slightly. Now that she held the sword in her hands Astrid found herself wanting to see what was inside the red casing more and more. She walked over to where Hiccup was standing before pausing. She examined the red bag more closely and turned it over once in her hands.

"Oh no," Hiccup started and tried to grab the sword, "No Astrid. Don't unsheathe the sword here! Who _knows _what magic that thing has inside of it!"

Astrid used one hand to push the young heir away and let the red bag fall to the floor. The sword inside was not one either teen had ever seen before. It was a thin long sword with a slight curve to the blade, a blue hilt and sheath, an odd almost diamond shape guard and a pommel that had a yellow ribbon with a bead on the end. It was different to the swords they normally used and both teens wondered where the demon was actually from. The whole thing radiated power and caused Astrid to hesitate.

"Seriously Astrid," Hiccup hissed, "Don't draw the sword! I'm telling you, something bad'll happen!"

"Oh hush now," Astrid snapped and gripped the handle and sheath, "I just want to see the blade."

And with those words Astrid drew the sword. She and hiccup both gasped when the world exploded in a flash of blue

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To say that Rin's head was pounding and his back was aching would be an understatement. His head felt as if it was going to implode and

his back felt painfully tight. Such things were best left to heal on their own with some sleep and would normally keep him off his feet on a normal day but that did not mean that he wasn't immediately awake and standing when he felt his sword being drawn.

The ropes that had been holding him burnt into ash and freed him from his uncomfortable position. His blue fire dulled the pain he felt in his head and helped turn his sight crystal clear as he zeroed into the one holding his sword. He narrowed his eyes when he realised it was the same chick who threw the bola and knocked him out.

"Give me back my sword." he growled his flames flickered up and down, an obvious sign of his irritation. He made sure to control the heat of the flames so that the blond didn't get burned while holding the koma sword. It would be plain embarrassing if he lost control of his fire like he did in the past.

"What's he saying?" She asked her friend and Rin knew from the previous day that she was speaking a different language. He was sure that the stuff that fell on his head in Mephisto's office was responsible for the reason why he could understand her and he was grateful but it would be so much easier if she could understand him.

"My sword!" Rin shouted and pointed at the Kurikara to make sure she understood, "Give it back." He held open his palm in a gesture that he was sure she would understand.

Her eyes lit up in understanding but instead of giving it back, she shook her head, "No."

The guy beside her rushed in and grabbed the Kurikara when he saw Rin's flames dance with renewed vigour across his skin. He sheathed it and waved his arms in front of him.

"Hiccup!" The blond shouted, "What are you doing?!"

Hiccup ignored her and held the sword out, "Here, here! We'll give it back! Just calm down." _

Rin sighed. This guy looked reasonable and so Rin didn't see why he shouldn't do as he asked. He did as he was told and got into a less tense stance, it wasn't relaxed but it wasn't about to attack either.

"Thank you." Hiccup sighed in relief before setting the sword down and backing up.

Rin walked about two steps towards his sword when a blur of black stepped over it.

"What do you think you are doing, Demon? Stay where you are." The black dragon said and growled.

Rin raised an eyebrow, "Well what does it look like I'm doing? I'm getting my sword, dumbass. Isn't that what your tamer said I could do?"

The dragon hissed and bared its teeth, "You will stay away from him. We don't want your kind around here. Leave."

Rin snorted. If that was an option then he wouldn't be in this situation now would he? He looked at Hiccup and pointed at the dragon, "Control your idiot dragon. I need to get my sword." He pointed to the sword at its feet.

The tamer looked confused for a moment before putting a hand on the dragons back, "_Calm down Toothless. Just let him get his sword." _

Rin couldn't help but laugh at the dragon, "Your name is Toothless? _Wow_. No wonder you're such a grump."

The dragon reared back in anger but the tamer pulled at the saddle on its back, "_I don't know what he said to make you so angry but you need to calm down, Toothless!" _

The dragon stopped its advance and stepped back before drawing the two teens between its wings. Rin shrugged and walked forward to get his sword.

Unfortunately, as he leaned forward he remembered the pain in his head and almost stumbled. Using one hand to grip his paining head and the other to grab the Kurikara, Rin picked up the sword and straightened up. The migraine that coursed through him was painful but it should be easy enough to remedy.

Rin opened one eye and looked at the teens, "Can I get some food? And maybe something to drink?"

Both the other teens looked on in confusion before Rin mimed out holding a glass to his lips and drinking from it and eating. The blond scrunched up her nose.

"_It wants... something to eat?" _ She mumbled and jumped back when Rin started to nod vigorously. Maybe too vigorously as his head, one again, started to pound.

Rin dropped to his butt and put the koma sword on his lap, with his free hands he massaged his aching head and hoped they would actually bring him back something edible.

"_The water's over there." _The blond pointed to a trough on the opposite end of the arena and smirked, "_And you'll get food when the dragons are fed at sun down." _

Rin struggled to his feet and growled, "I'm not a dragon. Don't treat me like one of those overgrown lizards."

Toothless pulled his lips over his teeth, "I am not an 'overgrown lizard', I am a Night Fury. You better learn your place, Monkey child."

Rin felt his irritation with the dragon rise and allowed himself to show some of his demonic side, it always worked well to show demons who was who after all. "Shut up, you overgrown bat! I don't care what you are, so you can go eat shit. All I want is water and if I have to burn through you to get it then so be it."

The red headed teen rushed between Rin and the Night Fury and put a

hand on the dragons mouth, "_Okay that's enough for today. Let's go home now buddy? Yeah, then we can go get some nice cod. How does that sound?_"

The dragon gave Rin a sly look and laughed, "Hear that demon? No cod for you."

Rin's eyes narrowed and he reached for the handle of his sword, "Why you little-!"

"Toothless! Stop baiting him!" _Hiccup turned to Rin and gave him a half hearted smile, "_I'll bring food for you too... umm."_

The young exorcist returned the half smile and pointed at himself, "Rin!" This guy was bringing him food, that immediately made him an amazing guy in Rin's books

The blond burst out laughing and Rin's smile fell off his face, "_What kind of demon name is Reenu?"_

"Astrid!" _Hiccup scolded and put a hand on her mouth to muffle her laughter.

Rin huffed, "Isn't Astrid a boy's name? Compared to yours, its like I hit the name lottery. And besides, it's not Reenu. It's Rin. Riiiiin."

Hiccup paused and scrunched his nose, "_R- Re...uhh... R-Rinu... no.._Rin_. _Rin_! Is that your name?"

Rin beamed at him, this guy was ten times better than his girl friend. "Yes! That's it!"

Hiccup nodded and started to walk back towards the steel door, "_Okay then, _Rin,_ I'll see you at sundown with your food. C'mon Astrid, you too, Toothless."_

The blond and dragon followed closely behind Hiccup and watched Rin warily as they made their exit. Rin stuck his tongue out at them and they gave him looks that _oozed_ displeasure. Satisfied with his attempt at irritating them, Rin turned and was about to go and fetch some water when he heard something that made him stop dead in his tracks.

Just as the steel gate slammed shut Rin managed to hear Astrid as she spoke to Hiccup, "_What do you think the other vikings will say when we get back to the village without bringing back that sword? We told them that we'd take it off the demon."_

Rin gaped at the backs of the two teens but didn't dare call them back. Vikings. They were Vikings. The same people that pillaged villages and wrought havoc all in the name of god? (Well that's what the normal human populus thought but the exorcists knew better.) Rin sincerely hoped it wasn't the same people.

Rin was somewhat proud of himself for remembering what the vikings actually _did_. He was never one to actually _pay attention_ during class but even _he_ had to admit that it had been a pretty cool lesson.

The vikings, as they were popularly known as, were probably the most successful group of exorcists during the old days. Under the disguise of sea-faring traders, these amazingly versatile warriors would either decimate or beat any demons they came across into submission. While, in the beginning, they had been called 'savage brutes' by the people who couldn't see demons and thus only saw a bunch of pirates beating people into a bloody pulp, those who knew what they had actually been doing only respected them even more. And thus they got a new name, 'the honorable savages'. It wasn't the best name out there but it was better than their previous names.

Rin's tail swished at a furious pace behind him. This was _so cool!_ These guys were epic! The stories written about them in the cram school text books were always entertaining and Rin would always search out stories of their escapades.

Rin's tail stilled behind him, "The best exorcists of their time... _Shit!_"

It hadn't occurred to him until now but these people had the means to actually kill him. They weren't the Vatican whom he could talk to and potentially bargain with, they were a totally different breed of exorcists! If he had struggled to get food, how in the world was he supposed to ask them to believe that he was only half demon and a good guy?

Rin walked to the trough and looked at his reflection on the stilled water. Blood from when he had been knocked out caked his temple and outlined his left eye. The actual wound was healed up and the only indication that it had actually been there was the blood and the dull throb in Rin's skull. Rin pulled back his lips and mock growled at his reflection before sighing and leaning against the wooden side.

He really did look like a demon when he did that. The blood added to the feral look he seemed to adopt every time he was angry and Rin wondered if this was how he looked when he lost control...

Rin shook his head before standing up and dipping his hands into the water before splashing some water into his face. No, he wouldn't think of that, not right now. Rin scrubbed at the blood and made sure none of the murky water dripped back into his drinking supply before reaching in and gathering some more. Once his face was clean Rin did what he came to the shadowed corner to do and drank his fill of water.

The water helped clear his head and once his headache ceased to exist Rin stood up and walked to the steel door. It wasn't anything special but something about it made the hairs on the back of Rin's neck stand on edge. Something wasn't right. Reaching out, Rin put a tentative hand on one of the bars and immediately withdrew it with a shout.

Rin turned his hand over and cursed, it was red and raw, obvious signs that the metals had been blessed. Rin turned his gaze skywards and, to his greatest dismay, found more chain links that covered the top of the arena like a spider's web. Obviously, there was no getting out of here even if he tried.

"Dammit," Rin swore as he settled into what little sunlight was left

in the arena. The sun was already going down and the stone of the shadowed part of the arena was already getting chilled, it was going to be an uncomfortable and cold night. As he settled onto the warm stones Rin heard quiet wisperings from above.

"_Look at that Fire Tongue, that's the demon Mamma was talking about."_ Rin lifted his head ever so slightly and caught a glimpse of a child peeking through the chain on the opposite side of the arena. Thankfully neither the child nor the dragon that was with him noticed the movement.

"He doesn't look so tough to me. I could probably burn him up in a second. That's just how great I am." Rin snorted. Seriously, the thing could hardly be called a dragon. It was about the size of a cat and sat smugly on the boy he came with's shoulder. It hardly fit the image of the great fire breathing reptilians.

The kid replied almost as if he understood the small dragon, "_Oh no Fire Tongue, don't you dare. Hiccup said that that guy had fire hot enough to burn Toothless! How hot is that? He'd definately burn you up. And 'sides, Mamma would shout us if you get him angry."_

The tiny dragon huffed and squeezed himself through the chains, "He doesn't looks like a weakling, I could defeat him in seconds. I'll show you, Liam."_

The little boy, now identified as Liam, shouted out in alarm and grabbed his dragon's sides. Rin's head shot up and he no longer cared for pretending to sleep, what these kids where doing was dangerous.

The tiny red dragon thrashed when his master grabbed him by his sides, refusing to let go of the steel mesh, and when that didn't work he spat fire. The fire turned the chains into a molten mess and made a small hole in the cage. Rin shouted out when a glob of red hot metal almost fell onto the pair of children. The small dragon immediately stopped moving and jumped onto his owners back, using him like a spring board. Liam, who had been holding onto his dragon, suddenly lost his footing and tripped into the arena.

He would have hit the ground head first had Rin not caught him in time. Unfortunately, his head whacked painfully against the Koma sword's hilt and he layed still afterwards.

Rin sat up and cradled the boy's head in his arms while the red dragon moaned above him, "No, Liam. Liam fell! Liam fell into the demon's cage. Have to help. Have to get help!_" _The small dragon then scrambled up and rushed off, leaving Rin alone with the child.

"Hey kid come on." Rin shook him gently, "Oi. Wake up, kid."

The child still did not stir though, "Show me you're okay and open your eyes! Kid! Oi! Hey, kid come on!"

Rin was getting desperate now. He could see the boy's face rapidly losing color and becoming pale, "Wake up before your mom gets here! Please! Kid! Liam! _L-Liam!_"

The child's eyelids fluttered at the sound of his name. "_Mamma?"_ he

asked grogily before opening his eyes slightly. Rin sighed in relief but it seemed that he acted too soon.

As soon as the boy heard the sigh his eyes snapped open and he stared, open mouthed, at Rin. His eyes filled with fear and he slowly started to shake. Realizing this, Rin let go of the child and backed up. He'd hoped the kid wouldn't freak out but it was no use. The child started to hic and tears gathered at the corners of his eyes.

"H-hey! Please don't cry! I won't hurt you I swear!" Rin waved his hands frantically.

Liam's response was to start to wail and back up further. When his back hit Rin's water trough, he immediately got behind that in an attempt to use it as a shield. The crying only got worse from there and Rin was suddenly at a loss for what to do. Was he supposed to console him or something?

"Please don't cry kid," Rin called and made a wide circle around the water dish. His heart constricted when the sight of the child curled up into a ball, crying. He really wanted to help but what could he do?

The child lifted his head at the sound of Rin's quiet 'What do I do!'s and swallowed. "_D-don't come any closer!"_ he tried to threaten, "_I've got a- a big scary dragon and he'll roast you up!"_

Rin snorted and shook his head, "It's that damn lizard's fault that you're in here." Rin took a step forward and the boy's eyes went wide as saucers. Liam opened his mouth in preparation for a scream and Rin panicked. He held out his hands and set them alight.

This time the kid really did scream but Rin tried to ignore it and focus on his task. Using a huge amount of concentration, he molded his flames into a life sized replica of Liam's red dragon. The replica then made its way to Liam and started to walk around on the ground in front of him. The boy stopped crying and stared at the fire doll in awe.

Unluckily enough though, that was the exact time that half the village came running to the arena.

"_The demon is trying to kill my son!"_ A heavily endowed woman screamed and the fire doll went out in a whisp of steam.

Shouts echoed loudly through the ring and a sense of dread ran down Rin's spine. Things were not going well for him.

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Well there you go! Chapter 2! Firstly I gotta thank Miqu because she's awesome and she Beta'd this for me ;) and then (My favourite part) **_reviews!***_

**Kate- Oh my word I blushed a little at the praise. Like seriously, you're amazing. As for what I watch and read, there's quite a bit of manga/anime. Titles like One Piece, Naruto, Noragami, Hitman Reborn, Soul Eater, Natsume Yuujinchou, Pokemon (Pm me if you play), Pandora

hearts, Beezlebub, Blood lad and uuuuhhh Magi? I think thats all the big titles I'm into? there might be more but I can't think at the moment.**

xfireflyskyx- I've been mulling it over with Miqu and we're working on an alternitive for Rin. We haven't yet come up with a definite but you'll have to see.

mrg6- why thank you, I'm glad you think so. I honestly didn't think this would've gone so well.

Kazarul3- I hope you liked it! I got excited after reading the reviews and wrote instead of studying. My tests are coming up soon tho so updates might not be as swift.

Oh! And thanks a bunch to those who followed and favourited this story. You guys make my day.

3. The not-so-great escape

"I'm telling you Dad, he can be tamed. He's intelligent enough to understand our language and even tried to communicate with us in a non-violent way!" Hiccup exclaimed as he hurried to catch up with his father.

"I dun'no Hiccup." Stoick hummed as he stopped for a moment to allow his son to catch up. "I really 'dun think this is a good idea. That's no dragon you got in that ring. That be a demon. My ma used ta tell me stories of them when I was a lad. Vicious creatures they are."

Hiccup raised an eyebrow, "But that's what you said about the dragons. And now look and them," He swept his arms towards the village, "dragons and vikings live in peace now. Who's to say that it can't be the same with demons?"

"I kno' Hiccup and we allowed for the demon to live but if I'd known that you'd plan ta domesticate it I woulda put an end ta the devil right there and then." Stoick gave Hiccup a hard look and then continued his patrol through the village. A low rumble of thunder sounded in the distance and Stoick picked up speed.

Hiccup groaned. He had convinced the villagers to spare the demon's life but then he had found himself at a dilemma. What was he supposed to do now that said demon was safe? This was no dragon whom he could put a hand to it's nose and it was pacified. This was a demon, a totally different creature, and it came with a whole new set of rules.

During the time that the demon was knocked out Hiccup had protected it, pleading that it was defenseless, but now that it was awake the whole situation had changed. This was a creature that was on the same level as a Nigh Fury when it came to weapons, intelligence and strength. Things could turn ugly in a matter of seconds.

"But he didn't seem all that evil when he woke up back in the academy." Hiccup rushed after his father and faltered when his father gave him a hard stare over his shoulder.

"I heard that the devil tried to cook you and Astrid both." Stoick countered and Hiccup scratched his cheek. _Ah_. So his father had heard about that.

"But he didn't!" Hiccup tried again, "I mean, yeah okay, he was mad that Astrid had his sword but he didn't burn us to ash as soon as he came around!"

Stoick sighed, "Just what do ya' want ta do with the creature, Hiccup?"

Hiccup opened his mouth to shout his plans when he realized he didn't have one. Yeah sure, making sure the demon was tame enough to approach it and potentially converse would be an amazing opportunity but then what? What does one _do_ with a domesticated demon?

"Well I suppose we could induct him into the village as another line of defense if need be." Hiccup wondered out loud, "The demon was smart enough to realize we couldn't understand what he said and worked out ways to mime out what he wanted. That kind of self awareness could be useful." Hiccup's mind was whirring as it tried to come up with something to convince his father. It wasn't fair to take something out of their home and then execute it just for living but vikings wouldn't accept that kind of thinking. They would more likely accept something that would benefit themselves. "Especially if we encounter more demons. He could help us fight them."

Stoick stopped walking near the town center, "An' what happens if this demon brings more of it's kind here? Then what?"

"So then let him go, Dad. He told me that his name was Rin. Doesn't that mean that he has a family out there that _gave_ that name to him?"

"Ya kno' we can't do that Hiccup." Stoick pressed, "The little devil is a danger to tha village."

"We don't know that. How much trouble could he get into? He's trapped within the academy." Hiccup paused his tirade when he heard an outraged cry.

"Fire Tongue!" The voice of an angry villager cried, "Just what has gotten into you?! And where is Liam? I told you to look after him."

The dragon let out a particularly pitiful moan after that and the villager stilled, the only sound that could be heard was the thunder that was steadily growing nearer. There would be a storm coming and in more ways than one, "Where is Liam, Fire Tongue?"

Hiccup felt a cold dread settle in his stomach as he watched the small red Terror whine and try desperately to pull the woman in the direction it had come.

"Lets go then, Fire Tongue! I'm coming but ya need ta settle down." The woman tried to pick up the Terrible Terror but the small dragon darted away and stopped a distance away before running back to the woman. This was repeated twice more before realization dawned.

The message was clear enough. '_Follow me_' it said, '_follow me

now! '_

Hiccup exchanged a look with his father and Stoick nodded before turning to Gobber who had just walked up to them, "Gather some men. We have a missin' child."

"Will do, Stoick. The laddies that came for some dentistry can come." he turned to shout in the direction of his shop, "Come along ya lay 'bouts! Stoick's got work fir us!"

All in all, a gathering of about a dozen men rushed after the village woman and grew more and more rowdy as they realised where they were headed to.

The place formally known as the kill ring. The dragon academy was where the demon was being housed.

Hiccup _prayed_ to the mighty All Father that Rin had nothing to do with this but as they approached the ring and the cries of a child grew louder he started to become fearful. The weather seemed to match the villager's mood as it too grew darker, fiercer and louder as they approached the arena. By the time the rag-tag group had started on the bridge, the wind had started to pick up and cause many eyes to tear.

Oh, Odin's beard. What if the demon- what if Rin- hurt that child? What was he going to do? He had fought so hard to protect the demon thinking it to be innocent but what if it wasn't as civil as he seemed to be? What if he was as devious as the stories said?

Rin was dangerous, that much was clear, Hiccup had seen the effects of that blue fire. It was hot enough to scorch a Night Fury's armor and Toothless' armor was at a level of 18! That was nothing to scoff about. So if Rin could burn Toothless then Hiccup hated to imagine what would happen if that fire power was turned on a human.

The group of viking's walk turned into a run when they heard the crying and only stopped by the nearby racks to pick up some nets and poles that were usually used in dragon training. Hiccup didn't bother to stop to collect a weapon and instead walked straight to the metal door of the ring. He gasped when he saw what was inside.

Rin was standing off to the side of the hiccuping child as he watched a dragon of fire dance before him. The blue fire dragon was absolutely breath taking and Hiccup found himself just as mesmerized as the child it was made for. But then the spell was broken and the mystical aura that Hiccup experianced shattered like glass.

"The demon is trying to kill my son!" the village woman shrieked and the fiery dragon fizzled out like a candle in the wind.

Rin turned around with his eyes wide and stood up straight. His head snapped this way and that, following the shouts of the vikings who had came to the rescue. Things became ethereal after that.

Men jumped down from the raised bars and knocked Hiccup aside as they rushed into the dragon academy. Two men went to pick up the child and the ten that were left surrounded Rin. They shouted insults and slashed at him with whatever they had in their hands. One would aim at Rin and force him back and as soon as Rin got to close another

would slash at his back. Rin narrowly avoided getting hurt every time they tried and eventually he just settled for standing in the middle.

The men were not done with him though. Once they were sure he was dead center, the metal chains and ropes they had gathered before coming in were put to use. It was almost like watching a synchronized dance.

The viking standing directly behind Rin was the first to act. A chain was thrown over the demon's shoulders with deadly accuracy and once it had reached his center, a quick tug tightened the loop at the end of the chain. Rin was pulled backwards and would have fallen had another chain not joined the first around his waist, this time from the man in front of him.

Rin lifted an arm to grip the chain but a loop of another caught him above his elbow followed closely by another that closed around his hand. His other arm went in the same fashion as soon the reflex to try free himself acted up. Rin's face contorted to that of great anger and the vikings replied with making the chains go taunt. His back straightened out and two more chains joined the others but this time around Rin's neck.

Those were the last of the chains but the remaining two men had brought along spears and did not hesitate to point it at the demons head. Hiccup was once again reminded that the usually peaceful people of Berk were not just farmers or traders. They were warriors, proud and strong.

Hiccup spluttered to life as Rin began to shout angry words at the viking crew. His tail lashed violently behind him, his eyes became tiny slits and his teeth were bared. These were all visual cues that Hiccup had seen many times on the dragons that surrounded them. Rin was not happy and things would only go downhill from here if he didn't stop this right now.

"Hey, hey, hey! That's enough! He's been immobilized! Don't hurt him!" Hiccup shouted and rushed towards the chain wielders and their captive.

"This demon just tried to kill little Liam, Hiccup!" One of the men shouted.

"You were here to see it! That ball of fire was on its way ta burn the lad to a crisp." another added.

"Just let us end the devil here, Hiccup! It's for tha best!" one of the spear holders said and lifted the spear. Thunder drummed though the sky and the air was electric. The air practically crackled but Hiccup hardly noticed. The atmosphere was tense enough as it was and that was without the weather.

"You've got it all wrong!" Rin shouted in an oddly pleading tone, "You have to believe me! I was trying to help him!"

The chains that had loosened during their brief exchange became excruciatingly tight in a matter of seconds and Hiccup panicked. The chain's around Rin's neck were cutting into his skin and making him gag.

"Stop it!" Hiccup shouted and slammed into one of the vikings holding the chain to Rin's neck, "You're choking him!"

"Hiccup come away from there now," Stoicks voice boomed from the side lines, "Let them do what they do best. That thing is a demon-"

"_Please!"_ Rin shouted out and drew the vikings' attention. He looked at the young heir straight in the eye before speaking again, "_Please, I was just trying to help. you have to believe me, _H-hiccup!"

All movement stopped and the vikings stared at the demon with wide eyes. He had just spoken... but it wasn't that odd language of his, it was Norse. Even if it was just Hiccup's name, it was something.

"H-hes just tryin' ta trick us!" one of the men shouted in a shaky voice, trying to regain some semblance of understanding.

"_No!"_ Rin spoke again and shook his head. The vikings faltered. It was hard to fight a creature that looked so.. so _human_. It made them unsure about what to do. The sky crackled as Rin stared at Hiccup hard in the eyes, "_Li-_Liam. _He fell and then I was just trying to help."_ Rin shook his head "_You have to believe me, _Hiccup!"

"Well would ya look at tha'." Gobber said as he hobbled over, "It's speaking ta ya Hiccup. Trying ta save yerself little beastie?" He said as he entered the circle of chains.

"Gobber," Stoick warned, "Wha' are ya doin'?"

"Dun worry, Stoick." Gobber reassured with a wave of his metal hand.

"Gobber," Hiccup almost-whined, "I have to agree with Dad here."

"Bah! He won't do anything, will ya beastie?" Rin raised an eyebrow but slowly shook his head.

But then Rin suddenly stiffened before looking around frantically. The young viking watched as the demon's whole body language changed. His angrily whipping tail slowed down and became stiff closer down to his legs. His shoulders hunched slightly and his eyes darted from one place to another.

"Uhh guys," Hiccup said in a hesitant voice, "Something's not right here."

His warning came too late, though. With a mighty _boom_ a bolt of lightning hit the bars of the kill ring and sent electricity sparking along the metal links. The vikings present let whatever they were holding fall and dropped to the ground in attempt to save themselves from the electricity that jumped from one metal item to the next. Hiccup looked to the center of the ring just in time for another bolt to flash across the sky and bring along a flood of rain with it.

As much as he didn't want to admit it, the scene in front of him was utterly terrifying.

Standing there, draped in chains that looked like writhing snakes in the flashing light, looking very much like the demons depicted in the old books the elders had gotten out, was Rin. Hiccup couldn't help the shiver that went down his spine. He was standing in the center of the ring, slightly hunched over, with his eyes glowing an eerily. Hiccup could not see his features but his blue irises and red pupils stood out well in the dark ring.

At that moment Hiccup could understand why demons were so feared. They personified everything humans feared. Like a wolf in sheep's clothing, a demon would have no trouble in getting into a village and from there everything would be easy. Mindless slaughter? A simple task for one who holds no conscience. Deception and betrayal? It was their creed. forcing others to watch their loved ones suffer? Easily done for one who holds power. After all, what more was there to fear from one who looked so much like oneself?

The rain pelted all those who were present but they daren't move. The demon had not moved and so neither did they.

Rin was currently standing shock-still and watching the sky. His head was cocked to the side, as if listening in to something, and his canines were peaking out from is scowling face. Something was wrong and Hiccup dreaded to find out exactly what it is. The wind howled and the young heir saw something in the corner of his eye as Rin jumped into action. A round creature with arms far too large for its body.

A ring of blue fire turned the water on the skin of all those present into steam and the round creature Hiccup had seen let out a high-pitched scream. It exploded and it's gooey remains landed with a _splat_ in Hiccup's face.

Hiccup tried desperately to get the disgusting matter off his face as all hell broke loose. From what he could see from his blurry eyes, Rin had turned the chain's into molten with his fire and then used one of the vikings present to pole vault over to the top of the ring. Rin grabbed onto the bars, paused to look back and then slipped between the gap and into the dark forest that surrounded Berk. It was silent for a moment before Hiccup's father couldn't keep it in any longer.

"Can somebody tell me what just happened?!" Stoick boomed, "How is he able ta touch tha bars? Are they not blessed?!"

"Well I suppose," Gobber drawled, "that tha electricity from that lightnin' bolt cancelled out it's effects. But tha' should be the least of our worries. There's now a demon on tha loose, Stoick."

The rest of the warriors then sprang into action and left in such a rush that Hiccup hardly had time to react. Soon, he was left al alone in the ring. The monster goo that had messed all over him was starting to ease up in the rain and Hiccup thought that he might as well head home to collect Toothless and then join the hunt. Something crunched under foot and Hiccup paused. Looking below his foot he found a piece of paper.

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Lifting it up, he attempted to read it, only to find that the howling wind and dark sky allowed for nothing to be seen. Hiccup folded the paper and placed it into his pocket. There was always later to read it. Right now there was a demon to find

Rin had known right away that something had changed as soon as the lightning struck.

The constant shiver that ran up and down his spine ceased to exist, the air became lighter and the feeling of danger that he had become accustomed to all disappeared in a flash of light. At first Rin thought it was the vikings that were making him feel that way but now he was not so sure. The vikings had not moved since the lightning bolt stuck the metal of the arena and so Rin first assumed it was his demonic side telling him that the vikings were not a threat. But then the sound of a snicker floated into his ears.

Rin looked to the sky and scowled when he heard the laugh but closer this time. That was the obnoxious laugh of a low level demon he was hearing and it was getting closer.

A flash of lightning revealed the spherical body of a Hob Goblin that bounced through the bars, smacking into a pole on the way in. "I see the young lord has gone and gotten himself captured." It snickered, "Quite impressive _your highness_."

Rin didn't think twice before cutting the creature down and sending it back to Gehenna, instead his mind was on other things.

That Hob Goblin had just touched the bars of the arena. He ran smack into it and came out unscathed. _That_ was a very, very good sign. Upping the heat of his flames, Rin melted the chains off his body and calculated his path.

Rin bent a knee and crouched for a moment before rocketing towards the nearest viking. The man shouted out in alarm but Rin paid him no heed. Rin put a foot onto the vikings head and pushed off with so much force that the poor man toppled to the ground with a mighty crash. Rin had no time to apologize though. Rin put an arm out and reached towards the metal coverings of the arena and hoped for his theory to be right and could have cried when he was.

The lightning had shorted out the blessings placed on the metals.

Rin paused before rushing to his freedom to look back at the arena below. He spotted what he was looking for gave a minute nod and then squeezed through the bars.

The kid that fell in was safe within the arms of his sobbing mother and that was all that mattered. Had he been at home he would have stayed to see if the child had gotten any injuries but as it was he had to make his escape. He could already hear the sounds of the panicking vikings.

Rin took a moment to breathe and calm himself before looking around. It looked as if the arena had been cut into the very rock of a cliff and there was a great amount of sea water on the one side of the

cliff. Rin had two choices. It was either climb the rock and run into the forest that grew on the mountains or run across the bridge leading to the village, seeking refuge there.

Rin snorted and made his way to the steep rocky walls that separated the huge monstrosity of an arena and the forest. Like hell he was going to run through that village. He'd have much more luck in the forests than having to fight his way through a village of battle ready warriors.

The trip up the rocks was relatively simple due to Rin's in borne strength and was only hindered by the sword that was hooked into one of the belt hoops of his jeans. From there Rin rushed into the lush vegetation and didn't stop running until the steadily gaining gradient of the mountain grew level.

Rin's chest and muscles burned from the extreme mountain climbing he had just done and the cold air. The rain pelting down on him did nothing to help as well. Ever since he awakened his powers, Rin found that he dislikes the rain immensely. It drained him and left him feeling lethargic. He had to get out of the rain and get warm _now_.

The young exorcist paused under a large tree and scanned his surroundings for a tree hollow or cave to rest in. A flash of light caught the corner of his eye and Rin feared for a second that they had caught up to him before the scent of burnt fish trickled into his nose.

Rin wasn't sure how the small managed to carry through the pouring rain but he didn't care. Burnt food meant fire and fire meant a dry place to stay. Rin ran towards the smell and smiled when he saw a small cave that cut slightly into the mountain side. He didn't hesitate to enter, thinking that he could deal with anything that was thrown at him, and sighed in relief when he reached dry ground.

Unfortunately, the feeling of relief lasted for about three seconds before the smell of burnt meat became over whelming and nearly caused Rin to gag.

"Oh god," Rin muttered as he plugged his nose and swept his eyes over the cave, "who was careless enough to burn food this badly?"

Rin's sharp eyes immediately found the source of the horrible smell and he shook his head in dismay. Some idiot had placed a small fish onto a pile of dry leaves and then promptly set it alight. Things had obviously gotten out of hand seeing as the fish was burnt to a crisp and the ground underneath scorched, the fire was even still letting off a small trail of smoke. The pile of fresh fish near to the fire place was another sign that the person who make the fire was still in the vicinity.

"I know you're in here." Rin's shout echoed through the small cave, "So there's no point in hiding. Do us both a favor and come out."

Nobody replied so Rin went on, "Well if you're not demanding I leave then I guess you don't mind the company."

Rin sat down on a nearby rock and rested his aching body before his stomach growled out loudly, demanding food, "You'll get fed at sundown." Rin mocked in a high pitched voice, "Ha. Bunch of dirty liars, all of them."

His stomach rumbled again and Rin groaned in response. _God_ he was hungry. Rin's eyes settled on the mound of fish piled on some leaves and got an idea. Rin didn't bother standing up fully and instead settled on crawling to the pile before sitting down again. He crossed his knees and reached out for a fish. He gingerly took a moderately sized fish in his hands and licked his lips. His hands erupted into blue flames and Rin altered their heat to the perfect temperature. Once he was happy with that he set to work methodically turning over the fish and cooking it evenly on both sides.

The smell of cooked fish was mouth watering and Rin sent a silent prayer to whoever caught the fish. The exorcist dug in with a fierce vigor and soon the roasted fish was no more than bones resting on the floor. Rin reached for another fish whilst silently wishing he had a proper kitchen to make a broth out of the fish bones.

Rin's sensitive ears heard a faint rumble of a hungry stomach coming from the back of the cave and he smiled. Somebody was certainly hungry. He set to work cooking the fish in a similar manor as he did the first while looking through his bangs to see the shining eyes of the owner of the rumbley tummy.

It was better to draw what ever was hiding in the shadows so he could deal with it quickly, so Rin waited for the fish to be cooked to perfection before holding it out and looking at the reflective eyes in the corner. He couldn't see what the owner of the eyes looked like due to the darkness of the cave but every time the lightning flashed he caught a glimpse of a long reptilian body. "Here," Rin said with a small smile, "one for you since it technically is yours."

The shining eyes widened and shrunk into the shadows. Rin raised an eyebrow but didn't break his stride. He sighed and held the fish to his mouth, "Oh well, if you don't want it then I guess I'll just have to have it." He slowly moved the fish to his mouth and waited for his elusive companion to take the bait. He didn't have to wait long for as soon as the fish was about to reach Rin's mouth a childish cry rang out through the cave:

"Wait! I want it!" The voice said and Rin had to admit that he was a little surprised at what the owner looked like.

The red dragon had a snake-like appearance with four skinny legs holding up its long red body, two thin folded wings and was about the size of those Cocker Spaniel dogs that Izumo so loved to gush over at home. The dragon had a medium sized jaw with a major under-bite showing off a multitude of sharp teeth even though its mouth was closed. All in all Rin had to admit that the small dragon looked like a Chinese dragon, particularly one called Yinglong.

The dragon caught itself when it was about an arm's length in front of Rin and seemed to hesitate. It gave Rin an extremely distrustful look, lowered its head and flared its wings. Rin didn't mind the look because he too hadn't lowered his guard. His sword was within his reach and it would only take a moment to draw it and finish the job.

"Put the fish on the ground." the childish voice that came from the dragon didn't match up with it's over all semi-fierce look and Rin could only assume that the dragon was still very young.

"Here," Rin put it on the ground a little away from himself, "I won't hurt you so you don't have to be so tense."

The dragon tilted its head in surprise, "You understood what I was saying, Human?"

Rin gave the dragon a toothy smile and waved his tail, "I'm not just some human, Kid."

The dragon looked at his furry tail in confusion before reaching down to get the fish on the floor, "You better not be one of those troll things my mother used to tell me about because if you steal the scales off my left leg, I'll bite you."

Rin chuckled and reached for another fish, "Don't worry, kid. I'm not a troll and I won't steal any of your scales."

The dragon nodded and flipped the fish up into the air before swallowing it whole. It rumbled in delight and turned to Rin with an almost eager look in its eye, "Can you pass me another fish like that please?"

Rin beamed at the indirect complement at his cooking, "Sure thing kid but I want to make for myself as well. Do you have any more of that dry leaves and stuff?"

The dragon turned in such a fluid motion that Rin had to admit that he was impressed. The dragon moved like a ribbon in a child's hand. Rippling and curling as if riding upon an ocean wave; snapping from one place to the next as it rode a breeze that nobody else could feel.

"What're you going to do with the leaves?" the hatchling chirped, gone was all previous distrust in the pretense of food.

"Watch and learn, kid." Rin said as he prepared the leaves in a pile and took out a few long sticks to hold up the fish. He put a finger to the kindle and in a spark of blue, a fire came crackling to life. Rin made sure to make it so that the flames would feed off more off his own power and instead just use the leaves as a place holder. Rin put the fish onto a few sticks and set them into the ground for them to cook.

"Are you a sort of forest spirit?" the dragon said in awe, "I've only ever met ones with power over the things they live in like the trees or the rivers. Momma always said to watch out for the spirits! She said they don't like dragons much. Ah! Your fire reminds me of a dragon's!"

Rin smiled at the child dragon again but couldn't help but wonder how old the hatchling was. It was obvious that the child was still very young but Rin wondered as to just how young the child was.

"Relax kid. I'm what you call a demon... okay technically I'm only half a demon but that doesn't really matter at this point." Rin lit

his hand aflame and had the fire dance between his fingers. "I've got power over fire but I won't compare it to a dragon's."

"I can use fire power too! Check this out." the red dragon opened it's mouth and let out a multitude of sparks came rushing out.

Rin couldn't help the little laugh that escaped him and he watched on in amusement as the dragon shrunk into itself, "That's some powerful flame you got there, Sparky."

The dragon huffed and smoke billowed out from it's nostrils, "It's not Sparky, It's Thor. Thor the Grapple Grounder" He said his name as if it was a title and Rin couldn't help but wonder if the little dragon in front of him was an important figure. Thor then added as an after thought, "And don't mock me! Just you see, one day I'll have the most powerful breath in the island!"

Rin took a cooked fish and munched lightly on it, "So your name is Thor? Nice to meet you, I'm Rin."

Thor puffed out his chest in pride, "Yes, I was named after the great Thunder Lord." He bent a knee and lowered his head in a make-shift bow, "It is an honor to meet you, Rin. I have to thank you for the food. It was much better than the fish I tried to make."

Rin raised and eyebrow and looked at the pit, "Yeah. I can see that you had a bit of trouble. Is that flame of yours giving you trouble?"

"I'd like to say no but it's no use hiding the fact that I cant spark my flames or shoot any bolts, seeing as you've already seen for yourself." Thor squirmed where he stood and did a very good job at looking ashamed, "Mother said to come here and practice my fire breathing before returning to the nest."

"So your mother threw you out because of your bad control?" Rin said with slight disbelief. Judging from the way the dragon acted and his high pitched voice, he really was just a hatchling. What kind of dragon would leave such a young kid on his own?

Rin knew from his broken education that dragons tended to act a bit like a cross between birds and big cats. They watched over their young until they were old enough to hunt for themselves and leave the nest before either forcing them to go out on their own or joining a flock-like system. The dragon in front of him certainly didn't look old enough to hunt for himself and Rin doubted that he could do much without the assistance of his mother.

Thor's chest deflated and he hung his head low, "It's not like that. She just said that I needed to work harder and that staying on my own would help."

Rin snorted. There was only so much that one could do on their own to improve their flame manipulation. Without somebody watching over their shoulder and guiding them, the process would become stunted. He wouldn't admit it but having Shura around during his training helped him tremendously.

"I'm not sure how long I'm going to be here but I can try helping you with your fire if you want?" he offered.

The young dragon's head shot up and he stared at Rin with a look that said that he was not quite convinced, "Setting your paw alight is not all that impressive."

Rin scoffed and set his entire body a blaze, "Please. Setting a few of my fingers alight is easy stuff now. All you need is some practice." He held his hand up, "And this is a hand, dumbass. I'm half human so I don't have claws or paws or whatever, I have hands."

The little dragon rumbled and stepped forward to press his nose into Rin's hand, "Yeah whatever. What I want to know is how you did that. It's like you're a Monstrous Nightmare."

Rin sighed and retracted his hand when Thor pulled away to sneeze, "I'm not sure what that is but I've got a feeling that you're going to tell me whether I want to hear or not."

The dragon let out a warbling laugh, "I am! And then you're going to reward me with another one of your fired fish for teaching you something new! It's a win-win!"

The dragon practically radiated a child-like energy and Rin couldn't help but wonder if Kuro had been this dragon in a past life.

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****Whoop there it is. Chapter three *dances*. I hope you guys enjoyed it because every time I received a review i would stop my studying to write a little of it out.****

****Just to be clear: Thor is a dragon called a Grapple Grounder. Im not sure how many of you know of it but its a dragon that appears in the HTTYD game. Oh and the dragon that Rin mentioned is basically the type of dragon everyone would think of when thinking 'Chinese dragon'. You know... Long winding body, mustache thingies, back legs kinda far from front legs. That sorta thing.****

****Okay so, like, I was talking to Miqu and she said to post a sort of "Idea's welcome sign." because we want to hear what you guys have to say. Your input is extremely important and besides giving me energy to write and Miqu endless idea's, it gives us valuable insight to what you want to see in the story.****

****Now...Drum roll please... it is time, ladies and gentlemen, for the review answer section! ~(^0^)~****

Kazarul3- Thanks for the wishes and I'm glad you think I got Rin's personality right. I tried really hard to keep him in character****

FD- here it is! An update! Lol if tests didn't exist I would be one lazy little shit! X3****

Music-chan loves anime- Hoped the chapter was worth the wait! drop me a review on what you think****

mary557- I don't think i'll drop this story yet (if ever). I'm**

having a bucket load of fun working on it and I'm sure Migu would agree.**

BlackWitchesCat**- Yes I do read the manga (with vigour actually) and myself and Migu have worked out something along your idea. While its not exactly what you said, its along the lines of it.**

Maximum Ride12345**- Your review made me grin abit (read: **_**a lot**_**) thanks alot for making me look like some crazy person grinning like a fool at my phone.**

xfireflyskyx**- well its not of my own making but it's something.**

A chance to fly**- Here's thee update no body expected (especially me). Lol Migu was just telling me to update when I got your review. It motivated me to stop being lazy and post. So here you go!
XD**

Lastly thanks all those people who followed and favourited this story. You guys are amazing. Don't forget to review and tell me what you think ;)

4. Of cold pools and fishermen

Note:- Changes have been made!

"Normal speak"

"_Emphasizing something."_

"Demon language when spoken to humans."

-o0o-

Back in a time before their flock was split up, Mother always used to bring prey back to the nest for to practice hunting on. It was always a fun affair. In the beginning the mice were fast snacks and the deer were quick and nimble but Thor soon grew bored of just pouncing on creatures that froze in fear at the sight of him before running around stupidly with no logic. They were easy prey, hardly a challenge at all. It was then that mother decided to bring in something more interesting for him to practice on.

Lynx, as Thor had come to find, were excellent adversaries. They were smarter than the plant-eating animals and often put up a fight. A well thought through and interesting fight. They had pride as a predator and because of that never ran away until they were _sure _that they couldn't win. And win they did. It wasn't until recently that Mother had decided to bring in bigger and more dangerous prey from him to practice on and it was only a handful of times that Thor actually manages to defeat the hissing creatures. Most of the time the job of dispatching the creatures after they had defeated Thor would fall onto his bigger brother.

Thor could remember a time when a particularly smart cat had caught him gazing at its lush, fluffy tail and used it against him. The cat wasn't singled out as prey by Mother and instead had chosen him to prey upon instead. The large, _hungry_ wild cat used its gently

swishing tail to draw Thor in closer before attacking. Of course the creature didn't survive to see the next day for making such an unfortunate mistake of trying to attack a Dragon's child with it's flock close by but the fact still remained that it's actions instilled a great curiosity in the young dragon.

So it was little surprise that he was mesmerized by the gentle flicking of Rin's tail as he slept on an elevated rock. Rin was sprawled out upon the flat rock soaking up the early morning sun and acting very much like the not-prey lynx Thor had seen sleeping many a time. The demon was facing away from Thor and he mumbled every now and then in his sleep, showing no signs of being alert to his environment. Thor eyed the demon as he continued to sleep on the flat rock. Was it because Rin was a demon that he could sleep so peacefully in enemy territory? Thor didn't know but it didn't escape him that only the birds approached and even then, they too kept their distance.

The little dragon crouched down low and crept closer to his target. He was careful not to make a sound as he moved along the gravelly path. He felt the fire in his chest burn in excitement as he got closer and closer to his target. It wouldn't hurt to practice on such an unsuspecting prey right? Right.

Rin let out a pitiful yelp as his tail was gripped in Thor's strong jaws and he was dragged off his flat rock and onto the rocky floor below. Rin let out a feral growl before promptly setting the blue furred appendage alight. The wonderfully lush tail turned from delicious play-thing into a red hot fire rod in second and Thor was forced to release it. The young Grapple Grounder jumped backwards as the blue fire burned his tongue and began to wonder if practicing hunting on a demon was such a good idea.

"What the hell, you dragon reject! That hurt!" Rin snarled and Thor flinched at his tone.

"I-I didn-" Thor tried but Rin cut him off.

"What possessed you to do that!" his tail was curled around him defensively and he glared at Thor with a burning intensity, "You could've killed me!"

"I-I was practicing," Thor stuttered as he curled into himself, Rin shouting was almost as bad as Brother shouting, "I didn't mean to hurt you..."

Rin continued to glare at him for a moment more before his eyes trailed down to his tail. It wasn't damaged seeing as Thor took care to grip it lightly with just enough strength to pull Rin off the rock but not break the skin of the tail so there wasn't much he could be angry for. Rin heaved a sigh before his body drained of the anger he had been feeling and instead left mild irritation.

"You're an idiot, you know that Sparky?" Rin grumbled as he allowed his tail to fall into its usual place behind him.

"I'm sorry for biting your tail but you didn't have to burn me." Thor mumbled before adding, "And my name's not Sparky! "

Rin looked at him in disbelief, "You bit my tail. How else was I

supposed to react?"

"Not by burning me..." Thor trailed off before jumping up as he remembered something, "Hey! Now that you're up, feed me!"

Rin raised an eyebrow before going over to settle back onto his rock, "Go feed yourself. What do I look like? A maid? It's still too early to be up and wreaking havoc."

"Awww come on!" Thor whined and scrambled up onto the flat rock, "Let's go hunting! There isn't any food around here and I can't go hunting on my own yet!"

Rin covered his face with his arms and as a result his voice was muffled, "You're a dragon aren't you? I'm sure you can handle one small hunt on your own."

Thor felt himself deflate, "But I just said I couldn't."

Rin paused in his grumblings and lifted his arms to look at the small dragon, "Then how'd you get the fish?"

Thor nodded his head towards the forest, "There was a stream with a net in it. There were fish inside so I took them."

The stream itself wasn't all that impressive but Thor remembered his mother telling him about how many fish crossed through its shallow waters to get to better breeding grounds. While he might not be able to hunt out in the forest without the aid of the flock, Thor had been confident that fishing couldn't be that hard. Unfortunately it turned out to be even harder. Thor had nearly headed to the cave empty handed had he not found the net in between some rocks.

Rin's eyes narrowed as he sat up, "Wait. Human nets? You took the fish from human nets?"

Thor nodded, not exactly understanding what the problem was. If the humans left the fish there then they obviously didn't need it, right?

"Damn it," Rin shot to his feet and jumped off his rock, "Come on. You're showing me where this stream is."

Thor tilted his head and wondered what had gotten the other so agitated, "Sure, it's this way but after I show you we can go hunting right?"

"Yeah yeah whatever. Just show me to where the thing is."

Thor trilled happily and bounded off in the direction of the stream. The trip there would have been much quicker if he could fly there but Rin was much too big to carry and so Thor was left with walking alongside Rin to the stream. The stream had taken him a while to get to by flying and so walking made the distance even farther, much to Thor's dismay, but even as they walked Thor couldn't help but feel a sense of foreboding. Why did Rin react like that when he said he took human nets? Had he done something wrong?

Soon the stream came into sight and Rin paused his marching. His tail went stiff and he tilted his head slightly, as if listening to

something far off. It wasn't a moment later that Rin shouted a quick 'Get down!' and Thor saw what Rin had been looking out for.

Further down the stream, where Thor had found the nets, were a group of large vikings. One viking was obviously mad at something as he was shouting and pointing to the bitten off ropes that once held the nets. The leader of the viking group, a man with a large partly braided beard, tried to soothe the fisherman but he was having none of it. Taking the ax he had strapped across his waist the fisherman began hacking at one of the nearby trees in anger. Splinters flew as the man sliced into the tree and it wasn't long before the tree could take no more and fell to the ground. The other vikings tried to calm the man but the fisherman was shouting at such a volume that he could be heard from where the duo had been hiding.

"I haven't seen ya devil creature around," The man spat, "But if I find it was him who took ma nets, there'll be hell ta pay! Leave me now, Chief Stoick! I'll send word if the creature yer looking for comes by."

Thor trembled in his hiding spot underneath the thick brush of the forest. Above him Rin was crouched, eyes never leaving the peep hole he had made as he watched the group of vikings off in the distance. Would that human do to him what he did that tree if he found that it was him who took the nets? Thor didn't know... all he did know was that he was to stay perfectly still and deathly silent as the vikings passed by.

The group itself wasn't all that close but Thor knew better than to draw attention to himself. He knew that if he moved the vikings would spot his bright red scales and if he made the wrong move they would attack first and ask questions later. He knew because his brother had once told him about stories of dragons who found themselves in the middle of a viking hunt. He also knew who the vikings were hunting.

Thor might be young but he wasn't stupid. He knew that Rin was not of this place. There was something about his scent that had made him want to crawl into his den and hide when they first met. It was the reason why none of the birds had dared to near them and that made Thor want to cringe away from him every time Rin neared him when they first met. It was something that screamed 'danger!', so he could understand- however slightly- how the humans felt. But no matter how much power Thor could feel humming from the sword or that seeped from Rin's very skin, he did not feel the need to run away. It was a safe type of danger, one that Mother always seemed to give off. A smell that warded off any opposition and kept those within its reach safe. Not at all like how the humans made him feel. Rin might not be a dragon but he was sure as hell better than the humans lurking off into the distance.

"C'mon Sparky. We're moving." Rin whispered and backed up slowly.

"I told you that it's not Sparky!" Thor hissed at him but followed anyway.

Rin nodded but Thor could tell that the other wasn't listening. Rin moved at a surprisingly swift pace and Thor found himself struggling to keep up. The long walk to the stream coupled with the sudden adrenalin rush had worn him out. At one point he spread his wings in

contemplation of attempting to fly but he knew he wouldn't be able to get that far anyway, so he settled for the alternative. When Rin paused by a large boulder to look for a foot-hold, he scurried over to and clawed his way up Rin's back. The demon's sword poked Thor's side as he settled into his new spot and after a moments deliberation he wrapped his tail around that too, no use in having it fall while they walk after all.

"Hey!" Rin yelped as he felt claws dig into his spine, "What do you think you're doing? That hurts you bastard!"

"I can't walk anymore. Carry me!" Thor chirped and wrapped his springy tail around Rin's waist, securing his spot in doing so.

"What? No! Get you're ass off me and walk! I can't carry you because you're lazy!" Rin tried to pull at the tail around his middle but the red appendage held tight.

Thor put his head onto Rin's shoulder and moaned, "But my legs are sore. You walk really quickly. And Mother always used to carry me when we were outside the nest."

"I'm not your damn mother so get off me." Rin growled and tried to shake the small dragon off his back to no avail.

"You can try make me, demon." Thor cackled as Rin struggled to pull him off but to no avail.

Rin grew more and more frustrated by the minute and soon the young demon was running at full speed through the forest and making sharp turns trying to throw the dragon off.

"That won't work Rin," Thor rumbled with glee, "I will continue to stick to you like glue until I deem it the right time to get off."

Rin stilled at that and brought a hand to his chin as he thought for a moment. Thor could tell that the demon was up to something long before there were any visible signs so when Rin's body went limp he was well prepared for what was to come. As the teen began to fall backwards the young Grapple Grounder unwrapped his tail and sprung away just in time to save himself from being squished.

Rin's head hit the ground below, which unfortunately concealed many hidden stones, with a thump and the effect was immediate. Rin curled up into a ball and gripped his head in attempt to alleviate the pain that blossomed from the back of his skull.

"_Fuck!_" Rin swore as he massaged the growing bump on his head, "You weren't supposed to move, you bastard."

When he looked up with tears gathering in the corners of his eyes Thor couldn't hold in his laugh any longer. Rin looked very much like a beaten puppy that Thor had often seen as they flew over human settlements so he could not help but laugh.

Rin pouted and got to his feet, one hand still on his head, "Yeah sure. Laugh it up. You won't be laughing when the vikings are attracted by your noise making and they make you into a purse."

That effectively shut Thor up and sent him scrambling up Rin's back once more. There was a slight tremble as he spoke, "Y-you really don't mean that do you?"

Rin's shoulders tensed momentarily before they relaxed and his lifted his other hand to stroke Thor's jaw. "Hey now," his voice softened, "I didn't mean that. There isn't any vikings around, we put a lot of distance between us and them. And even if there was, I wouldn't let them hurt you."

Rin sounded sure of what he said and so Thor felt his body relaxing against his will but he still couldn't be sure, "Just in case they did come back. Could I ride on your back for a while longer?"

Rin gave in with a sigh of defeat, "Sure, why not? You can ride on my back for a while until we find some food but then you have to get off."

"I can do that." Thor nodded. In his mind the reasoning was fair and logical so why complain?

Rin grinned and nudged his head, "Good. Because I can't do jack with you hanging onto me like some demented koala. A very heavy demented koala."

"Are you calling me fat?!" Thor practically screeched, all the previous fear he'd felt evaporating into thin air. His race was a proud one and Mother would think him mad for not standing up for himself. "And I don't even know what a koala is! For all I know you could be insulting me!"

"I am insulting you, genius." Rin laughed before he looked around, "Hey Thor, you know where to find some grub?"

Thor knew what Rin was trying to do by changing the subject but at the moment he was too hungry to care, "I do! Let's have some deer! There is a pasture not far from the cave we slept in that always attracted deer. A deer would make a fine meal. The meat quality is by far the best I've yet tasted!"

"Deer? Like hell I'm going to be running after deer while you sit on the sidelines and watch." Rin huffed, "Wasn't it you who said something about not being able to hunt on your own?"

"In the flock its the grown-up's job to do the hunting." Thor said matter-a-factly, "So now that duty falls onto you."

"I'm not part of your damn flock so you can't apply that logic to me. I'm no dragon and If you think i'm doing all the work you've got another thing coming Sparky." Rin said with a smirk and laughed when Thor's entire body rumbled as the little dragon shrieked.

"My name is not Sparky, you fat squirrel! Why do you insist in degrading my wonderful name so?"

"Yeah yeah yeah," Rin said with a wave of his hand, "Just point me in the direction of the pasture so we can get this over and done with."

-o0o-

"Have ya heard?" a villager whispered in a hushed tone to his friend, "'Bout wha' happened yesterday before tha storm?"

"I did." replied the other with a huff, "Can ya believe tha Chief Stoick allowed this ta happen? The demon is loose on tha island and we haven't done anything about it. It's a disgrace to the viking name tha is what it is."

"I told ya that this would end badly, didn't I? I told ya!"

"Aye, ya did but ya know-" The villager cut himself off and looked around. He spotted what he was looking for and put an arm around his friend, leading him away. "Let's go inside and continue there."

Hiccup sighed as he continued down the path to his home. It was barely past sunrise and almost the entire village was up and out of their homes. Usually this wouldn't be unusual but today was different. At first glance nothing seemed to be wrong but it only took a moments observation to find that all was not right.

The air was thick with a terrible sense of anticipation, it was like an invisible fog that hung in the air and blotted out all sunlight and warmth. While there were smiling faces and laughter here and there, it was fleeting. If one looked close enough you could see how many people struggled to keep the tension out of their shoulders and the smiles on their faces. The usually upbeat aura that the jovial citizens of berk was replaced with one that they would usually wear a few years back.

Weapons hung from belts and hands hovered near waistlines. The men would often brush their hands over their chosen weapon and the woman kept extra watch over their children, never letting them out of their sight or their children into the shadowed places in between buildings. Even the dragons, who normally paid no heed to the atmosphere, were tense. They stuck close to their chosen riders and the children. All the hatchlings in the village had all but disappeared, the juvenile dragons did not play their games of flaming tag across rooftops and the mature dragons were obviously displeased about something. They hissed and spat at just about everything that rubbed them the wrong way.

Hiccup shook his head and headed back to his house. He had seen enough of this. Last night when Rin had first escaped his father had set out to capture him immediately, intending to get rid of the demon before it caused any problems, only to have been forced to head back as soon as they reached the treeline. The storm that had broken out was nothing short of apocalyptic. Winds buffeted houses and carried small branches in their drifts that cut into anyone unfortunate not to be indoors. Lightning struck just about everything out in the open and the thunder was so loud that it left your ears ringing. Not that Hiccup witnessed any of this for himself...

After the round creature had left him in a sticky mess, he found himself feeling more and more sick as he walked home. When he finally arrived at his front door his head pounded with the intensity of a drum and his ears were ringing. Toothless fussed endlessly over him but Hiccup hadn't been able to soothe the dragon's nerves. He was in

need of sleep to allow his aching head to rest for a while. Toothless was immensely displeased with him when he got into bed and wanted him up and doing... something but he just couldn't. He was feeling horrible and it wasn't like he could have done anything out in the rain anyway. While ignoring the dragon might have been rude, at the time, he couldn't even walk straight let alone stand up long enough to calm his dragon, so Hiccup thought his need for rest was justified.

Unfortunately his pounding head didn't let up at all once morning had come and Hiccup was forced to get up and seek help from the village elder. She gave him some medicine to drink with strict instructions that he was to 'purify' himself from the inside with it- whatever that meant. The bag with the bottle of horrible smelling medicine clinked against his side and Hiccup felt a sense of dread wash over him. Imagining how the 'medicine' would taste was just as scary as trying to fight off the Red Death.

"I'm back!" Hiccup called as he pushed his way through the front door, "Hello? Anyone home?"

Hiccup shrugged when he received no answer. While it was unusual for Toothless not to answer his call, he hadn't expected his father to be around seeing as there was a demon loose on the island. Hiccup had just about made it to the stair well before he was tackled by a black mass and dragged out towards the door.

"H-hey! Toothless!" Hiccup protested as he struggled to get away from his dragon's grip. The Night Fury had him by the neck of his shirt and wasn't going to let it go anytime soon. In the end the young heir had no choice but to stop struggling when the black dragon bit down on more of his shirt and left him with his arms in the air. Hiccup wasn't sure how he did it, but Toothless had somehow gotten the material around his shoulders into his mouth and tightened the material to the point where Hiccup felt like he was being hoisted around in a baby carrier.

"Put me down Toothless. Toothless? C'mon buddy? Please?" Hiccup pleaded with his dragon as he was dragged to Oden knows where but all he received in response was a string of gurgles.

Toothless was obviously trying to tell him something but as soon as the dragon tried to communicate with his rider, Hiccup felt a bout of nausea take hold of him. The world seemed to blur and sounds intensified the more Toothless' panicked and moaned. The dragon had taken to running as fast as he could and whining all the while. Hiccup could almost hear what Toothless was trying to say.

'Hold on. We're nearly there.' he seemed to say and Hiccup briefly wondered if he was going insane. Any future thoughts were cut short when Hiccup was thrown into a shallow pool of water. His earlier feeling of sickness was momentarily washed away as cold flooded his body.

"Toothless!" Hiccup shrieked, "What was that for?!"

The dragon, who sat on his haunches near the edge of the pool shrugged and let out a string of rumbling gurgles. Hiccup could almost hear the 'You needed it'.

"I had a bath three days ago!" Hiccup ground out as he stood up and waded towards the shore, "Why would I need another one!"

Toothless tilted his head and his pupils became less round. Hiccup felt the vibrations generated by the dragon as he spoke and halted his journey to dry land. He looked at Toothless through knit eyebrows as he tried to decipher what the dragon was trying to say.

"Demon smell?" Hiccup echoed quietly and Toothless tensed up. Hiccup hardly had time to react before he was in the dragons arms as Toothless used the underneath of his jaw to scrub at Hiccup's hair.

"Ow ow ow! That hurts Toothless!" Hiccup pushed at the dragon and wiggled his way out of his grasp, "What has gotten into you today?"

Toothless stomped his foot and attempted to grab Hiccup again but the young viking jumped away. Toothless was now letting out a long string of dragon speak and Hiccup's head throbbed softly at each utterance. He put a hand on his head and put the other on the dragon's nose.

"Relax buddy. My head is throbbing and all this speak of demons is making it worse." the next thing he was going to say died in his throat when something occurred to him. How in Loki's name did he know what was making Toothless so agitated?

Hiccup backed up and out of the pool before looking back to his dragon. Toothless' pupils were tiny slits in pools of green and his head was tilted slightly as he tested the air.

"Demon magic." the words trickled into his head as Hiccup watched the dragon growl. Those two words were said in perfect synchronization with the growl and Hiccup backed up.

Okay so maybe he did go insane. Maybe he hit his head sometime last night and was hallucinating. Maybe he died the day on patrol that they found Rin and this was his life flashing before his eyes. Maybe this was a dream.

"Calm down Hiccup." Toothless said as he rounded Hiccup but his soft tone did nothing more than agitate the viking even more.

Hiccup spun away from his dragon and pointed a shaking finger, "No you calm down Toothless! First you drag me out of the house and then you throw me in a pool of freezing water and now I'm hearing you talk in my head? As if this huge headache wasn't bad enough, now I have to deal with going insane! I think a freak out on my part is understandable."

"Just wash hair." Toothless tried again and batted his head towards the pool, "Demon stink'll come off and head'll stop paining."

"Will it stop this hallucination?"

Toothless shook his head, "Magic's set in."

"Great. Just marvelous." Hiccup muttered as he walked back to the pool and dipped his head in the water. True to his word, the water

soothed his headache just like Toothless said but it did nothing to reassure him.

He shouldn't have to wash his hair in some cruddy water in the forest. He shouldn't have to be out in the middle of nowhere freaking out. He shouldn't have a pounding headache and most of all he shouldn't hear his dragon speak. It was unnerving and it scared him out of his whits. There were many times that he felt truly scared of Toothless and unfortunately this time was one of them. It wasn't that he was scared of Toothless himself, he was just terrified every time the dragon opened his mouth and growls came out but inside his head broken sentences were made.

The sentences themselves were horribly butchered and sounded almost completely like gibberish but one or two words would come through clearly and make up for all of the previous rubbish. It was like listening to a person speak through a door. Words could be heard but only certain phrases made it to the ear.

"Hiccup?" Toothless murmured and sidestepped closer to the teen. When said boy stiffened he stopped advancing and moaned. Out loud, the sound was normal and what Hiccup was used to hearing but inside his head another string of broken Norse floated into his mind, "Sorry for the pool but you needed it. Demons smell bad."

Hiccup took a shaky breath and looked up to his dragon, "Why did I need it Toothless? And what's all this talk of demons you've been going on about?"

"On your head," the dragon's eyes shifted to his hair and then back, "there was demon magic."

Hiccup put a hand to his damp hair and thought back to the night before, "Rin defeated a round creature and some stuff fell on my head. I've been feeling sick ever since. Are you saying that I got cursed?" The idea of being cursed by a demon made Hiccup's heart drop into his stomach. What if Rin cursed him? He was a demon after all. It wouldn't be odd if he did so. Wasn't it in his nature?

"No, it makes you understand."

"Understand their language?" Hiccup tried to clarify as he was feeling a tad bit lost. Toothless nodded but that didn't help his confusion, "If it helps me understand what demons say then why- why can I understand what you say?"

"Different kind but same language." Toothless said but it took a moment for Hiccup to completely understand what was being said. The actual sentence was much longer and more complex but those five words were about the only recognizable ones.

"Okay, so lets say I'm not going insane and I can actually understand dragon and demon speak. Why did I feel so sick every time you spoke?" Now that he had calmed down slightly it occurred to Hiccup that he was no longer feeling as sick as he had on the way to the clear pool.

"Demon magic bad on humans. Doesn't work well and there are effects after. Sickness." Toothless tried to explain but a lot was too mangled to understand and Hiccup had to ask him to repeat it three

more times before he got the message.

Whatever magic was used on him was not supposed to be used on humans. It wasn't made for humans and as such, had a bad effect on one. It was a simple logic and Hiccup begrudgingly accepted it along with the fact that he was insane before tilting his head to the sky and breathing deeply. Might as well face the fact that he was going mad and learn how to counter it. It was either that or face being exiled seeing as only a madman would bring a demon into the village and endanger everyone inside. During the clan meet people had often said he was mad, what would they say now if they learned that they might actually be right?

Another thing occurred to Hiccup and the question slipped past his lips before he had any more time to ponder on it, "If I can understand you, Toothless, does that mean I'll be able to understand Rin?"

Toothless somehow managed to give Hiccup a look of distaste before snorting, "The demon? Maybe. But you'll stay away."

"Is he planning something dangerous?" Hiccup asked seeing as he wasn't sure if Toothless just didn't like the demon or if there was a reason for the Night Fury to be so distrustful towards the factor.

"Wasn't planning anything but wasn't normal." Toothless struggled to get what he was saying across and when he saw Hiccup's eyebrows tilt he tried again. "He's not normal demon. Not acting like he should."

Hiccup started to shiver and decided that they could walk and talk as he made his way back to the village, "How isn't he acting normal?"

"Very relaxed and non-violent. Demons aren't so lax. He should be lashing out but he's not." Toothless was obviously ill at ease as his sentences were becoming less and less recognizable. Hiccup wasn't sure what to make of it but decided that he could try being an optimist for a while, seeing as he was going mad already there wasn't any reason for him not to act in an unusual fashion.

"Maybe he's just kind of weak and isn't able to attack?" he said with a shrug. "There are weak demons out there right?"

Apparently that wasn't the right thing to say as Toothless immediately seized up. His body became rigid and a growl slipped past his lips, as if threatening an unseen enemy.

"No, he's strong. Strongest maybe. There is no doubt, the blue fire is proof."

Hiccup tried to swallow around the lump in his throat and put a hand to his thumping heart, trying to calm it slightly. "What does the fire have to do with anything? Isn't that normal? There's got to be a lot of things out there with fire that colour."

Toothless leveled a steady gaze at him and shook his head, "Blue fire is royal fire. The demon king's fire."

-o0o-

****At last! Exams are over and i now have access to the internet again! Rejoice! ****

****After suffering through exams i admit to having totally lost any motivation to do any sort of thing that would require effort on my part. I didn't so much as touch my computer to write after the last chapter in attempt to keep distractions away during the time i was supposed to be studying so the file i'd dedicated to chapter 4 sat empty for a long while. It took Miqu telling me to get off my lazy butt and you, my faithful reviewers, to bring me out of my funk. You guys rock and **_**toooooootally**_** motivate me to write. ****

****Okay so as much as im having fun writing Thor, he's totally defeating me. I have about three back stories lined up for him but cannot for the life of me decide which one to pick so ive decided to go the lazy route and ask you guys. What would you like to see as part of Thor's story? I'd like to hear what some of you guys would like to see from the young Grapple Grounder. So based off your replies i'll set his story.****

****Heres out to:- ****

xfireflyskyx **- I'm glad you like it! I'm still trying to work out Thor's character though...**

Maximum Ride12345- im glad you reviewed again!****

A chance to fly- well im not going to reveal anything major but them becoming friends is a possibility *hint hint*****

Guest #1- thanks i will XD****

Sincerely The Sign Painter- well its not exactly "soon" per se... but its the quickest i could manage to publish.****

Kanade Night- Oh stop it you... flattery will get you nowhere u im glad that you think of this fic as one of the better ones. It makes an author seriously happy to hear things like his.****

BlackMinx17- Tadaaaaaaa its here!****

A stranger 0.0- The opening line of your review gave me a heart attack! It was like the opening of a flame but then after recovering my heart off the floor your review made me smile. Thanks :) any review is welcome****

Guest #2- haha well im estatic that you check everyday for a review and hope you are no longer sad****

general zargon- Noted with thanks. While my reply was childish I admit, I'm grateful for your advice.****

StrayDogHowling028- chapter status: Updated****

skillet5230- thanks a lot! XD****

Don Thousand- I hope i'm not pulling you away from any much needed sleep and while there wasn't much action on the vikings side, i**

promice more will happen in the next chapter**

Guest #3**- Don't worry. While it might take at least a week or two to write a chapter, im still very much into the story and'll keep updating.**

Guest #4**- Tell your friend i love him/her for introducing you to the story and thanks for the review.**

purehearts22**- You had me grinning at my phone when i saw this review. It really motivates me to get off my lazy butt and write when i get reviews like this.**

Here's thanks to all those wonderful people who followed and favourited this story. You guys rock ;D

5. Because nothing can be ever easy

Hiccup stumbled for what seemed like the millionth time. The news of Rin having 'royal fire' had been a shock to his system. Finding out what that royalty exactly meant had been even more of a shock and it almost completely blotted out his newfound skill of dragon speech.

Hiccup's metal foot caught on another stray tree root and he was sent sprawling onto the forest floor. He groaned as he flipped himself over to watch the sunlight filter through the gaps in the trees. A stray dragon flew overhead and Hiccup was reminded of the massive leviathan he had fought not a year and a ago. His eyes trailed downward until he caught sight of a glint of metal. Gobber had called it a 'battle scar' but Hiccup just called it a pain. In all honesty if he had the choice Hiccup would have gone back and done the same thing over if it had the same results. He didn't regret a single thing he had done... he just wished his leg didn't have to get chopped off in the process.

The young heir heaved a massive sigh that left him feeling like he was sinking into the soft ground. Really, he gave up so much already for peace. Was it too much to ask for it to last for a while longer? The most peace disturbing thing Hiccup thought he would've had to deal with these days was his father bugging him to start his chief training.

A branch snapped under the weight of a massive paw and a lithe black figure slunk in from the forest. The Night Fury gave Hiccup an awkward gummy smile and he was suddenly reminded of what Toothless had said replayed in his mind with excruciating clarity.

-o-

"Demon king's fire?" Hiccup almost whispered, "This is a joke right bud?" It had to be, just had to. After all, what would the Demon King want in Berk? He had the realm of fire to rule over didn't he?"

"Toothless whined and shook his head once, "There is no mistake.""

Hiccup ran a frantic hand through his hair, "Maybe he's not the King and we're just over reacting. Right? I'm sure the royal family is a large one."

_Toothless rolled his shoulders, "Royal family _is _big. The King has sired many sons." Hiccup felt his hopes soar, "But none of his children possess his fire." And just like that, his hopes came crashing to the ground again._

Hiccup ran his hand through his hair, "Hel... what am I going to tell dad?"

-o-

Hiccup scrubbed at his eyes and attempted to banish the memory. Weren't demons supposed to be banished to the fiery realm of Muspelheim? How was it even possible that a demon, and the demon _king_ no less, was here on Midgard? Was he plotting something? Why wasn't he attacking them? Burning their village with his hell-fire? Why was he in such a small unassuming form? Why didn't he break out of the arena sooner? Why? Why why why _why_?

Theories, ideas and questions that lead to more questions ran rampant in Hiccup's mind and soon he felt almost sick. Sitting up he swatted an irritating insect away from his face and turned to his dragon. Toothless had settled down onto the ground in a seemingly relaxed position but the dragon was far from relaxed. His pupils were tiny slits and his eyes darted from one spot to the next at a rapid pace. Lifting his head, Toothless scented the air and a low growl slipped out from under his lips.

"Toothless?" Hiccup asked almost warily. He had had enough surprises for the day and something told him that things were only going to get more complicated from here on out. "Toothless, what's wrong bud?"

Toothless paused his scanning for a moment before he rushed forward and heaved Hiccup to his feet. He pressed the flat of his head to Hiccup's back and pushed him forward at a speed, "Something doesn't smell right. Dangerous but not dangerous."

"What?" Hiccup dug his heels into the ground, "Toothless you're not making any sense."

He was becoming harder to understand too and Hiccup was getting the feeling that he would understand less and less as the Night Fury got more worked up.

"Slow!" Toothless almost whined and then decided to take matters into his own hands. He switched from pushing Hiccup along to pushing his head through the teen's legs and having him slide onto his place on his neck.

Hiccup shouted in surprise but settled into riding position on instinct, "Toothless! What are you doing?"

Toothless ignored him and broke into a run, never ceasing his constant search of the surrounding forest. Hiccup watch his eyes zero in on a dark spot in a tree and had to hold onto his saddle as Toothless suddenly veered away from it.

"Hiccup! Fly! Set foot and fly!" Toothless shouted as he frantically flapped his wings. Hiccup fumbled as he tried to get his metal foot into position and look behind him to see who was chasing them. Toothless kept on jostling him as he jumped over roots and glided small distances so Hiccup had to put off the search for the attacker for the moment.

The sound of Toothless' jaws suddenly snapping shut was the only warning Hiccup got before he rocketed into the air. The young heir took advantage of the pause in action and pressed his body flat against his dragon's neck to slowly look over his shoulder. For a moment he wondered what had gotten into Toothless- if the dragon had just been spooked- but then he saw it and Hiccup wasn't really sure what it was.

Specks of black filtered through the tree line and streamed like flowing water after the pair. What was at first a collection of random black specks soon gained in numbers and became a swirling, rippling black mass. At first Hiccup could've likened it to how bees in a swarm would move but he then found that the image didn't fit. When bees swarmed it was like watching something through rain. Their erratic movements were impossible to follow and their numbers were just high enough to make you feel a sort of panic.

This however was different. It was like those huge flocks of birds Hiccup would occasionally see. They moved like a lump of black dough being pulled in every direction but never breaking off from the main body. Had the thing been a swarm of bees, Hiccup would've felt slightly nervous, but these black specks weren't and it was nerve wrecking. It was something else entirely and it was disturbing and terrifying. The black mass would occasionally take the shape of something Hiccup recognized but the thing never stayed in one form for too long. There were things that Hiccup registered though. A snake-like figure with green eyes, a creature with features of that of a goat and, one it seemed to favor, a large black dragon that rippled constantly. There was the occasional speck that broke off and hover in the air before getting left behind but the few that defected were nothing compared to the main body.

As terrifying as the shape-shifting thing was, Hiccup thought that it was the constant soft chattering the creature let off was worse. It chanted things like "Food! Food! Food!", "We're going to eat you!", "Feed us dragon! Give us your catch!" or "You'll never get away, human." The creature opened a large green mouth and smiled stupidly at him after the last line and Hiccup felt his heart rate pick up.

Unable to listen any more he turned away from the gestalt creature and put a hand on his dragon's head, "Toothless! What is that?!"

"Coal Tar,_" Toothless growled and barrel rolled away from a huge snapping head, "They're not normally a threat. Normally harmless. Irritating."

There was a sudden stab at his neck and Hiccup's hand flew to swat whatever bit it on reflex. The Coal Screeched in displeasure and gave Hiccup a small scare. Looking around them he found that some of the tiny creatures had latched onto Toothless' wings and were trying to

slow him down.

"Normally not a threat?! I'm not sure if we're looking at the same thing here, Bud, but this thing is not what I would classify as 'harmless'!" Hiccup shouted, batting at three more gripping his sleeve.

The Coal Tar monster let out a booming ghoulish laugh that sent shivers down Hiccup's spine and caused a frigid tensing in Toothless' shoulders. Hiccup shifted gears and they were suddenly shooting side to side trying to get away from the creature but nothing seemed to work. The prosthetic fin moved jerkily and the rider pair found it harder and harder to fly straight. The Coal Tar had begun to gather on Toothless' tail.

"Coal Tar in large numbers are dangerous. Gathers in lungs and then devour you."

"Odin help me." Hiccup groaned, "They gather in your lungs and _suffocate_ you? Are you kidding me? What kind of dragon hunts like that?"

"No dragon," Toothless hissed, "rot demons. Don't breathe them in."

With a screeched Toothless parachuted his wings as a gathering of Coal Tar materialized directly in front of them and it was then that Hiccup finally got a proper look at the creatures. It came as a surprise to the teen to see that the demons were no bigger than a bumblebee. Small black bodies, spikes for limbs, a long tail that ended off in a triangular point and large cat ears. Quite different from the scary blob creature chasing them

It was only a moment of inactivity on Toothless' part, but it was enough for the larger gathering of Coal Tar to catch up. The smiling form of the collective Coal Tar chanted as their, now glowing, green eyes squinted and gigantic mouth opened wide. Hiccup and Toothless could do nothing as the constantly shifting black encompassed them. The multitude of tiny demons laughed at them as their air supply steadily decreased and Toothless' wing beats became unsteady. Hiccup wanted to shout out but he remembered Toothless' warning of not breathing in.

In the end, it didn't take long for black spots to appear in Hiccup's vision and the steady burn in his lungs to become unbearable. The Coal Tar pulled at his vest and Hiccup came loose from his dragon. Soon both of them were falling and Hiccup involuntarily opened his mouth to scream. He immediately regretted it as not air filled his lungs but a few laughing demons.

His world turned black and the last thing he saw was Toothless going into a tailspin as they fell.

-o0o-

Hunting, as Rin found, was harder than people made it sound. It was nothing like they show on TV and was both incredibly boring and frustrating. Rin vowed that when he got back to True Cross that he would bug Yukio until he gave him and the rest of the other exwires some survival classes.

After spending most of the morning following deer droppings, tiny paths, broken branches and just about anything else that could lead them to the herd Rin eventually found them. It was only a group of about five doe and one large buck; quite different from the hundred strong mental image the half-demon had of a herd of deer. When Rin asked Thor had told him that some dragons, like him, liked animal meat and so the general animal population was low. Rin mulled it over for a moment before he decided to stop questioning things and just get things over and done with.

In hindsight, Rin thought that rushing the animals was definitely not the smartest thing he could have done.

Charging the animals, sheathed sword in hand and screaming a hearty battle cry, didn't cause them to freeze up in fear or cause that large buck with the fancy branching horns to try fend him off and protect his herd thus becoming dinner. Oh no, the deer simply gave him a startled look before rushing into the thickest part of the forest they could find. Rin ended up running around in a scramble for over half an hour before he simply just gave up.

Rin crashed his way back to the clearing and fell down onto the softest patch of grass he could find. At that moment Rin came to appreciate the genius of the modern convenience store. It made getting lunch so much easier than this hunting crap. Thor laughed as he trotted over to where the teen was laying.

"Your hunting skills are awful, Rin!" the dragon crowed, showcasing his many sharp teeth in the process. "Why didn't you say anything! We could've looked for something smaller to hunt. It might've taken a while but mice are quite delicious."

"Shuddup," Rin grumbled, "They were friggin' fast, okay?"

"They're deer that live on an island of dragons. Why would they be slow?" Thor said with a tilt of his head.

Rin turned away with a pout, "I tried okay! You wouldn't have done any better if you had been in my shoes."

"We'll I think I certainly would have done a better job than you if I had tried." Thor hummed, "I could blow them away with my burning fire and we'd be feasting on their flesh a moment later."

Rin felt a shudder ran down his spine as he remembered the hatchling's attempt at breathing fire and then his own first time controlling his fire. His own failure at keeping his friends safe from Amaimon by attacking him with fire in a forest flashed through his mind. Shaking off the thought Rin turned to Thor and examined the small dragon for a moment. Thinking of home Rin was reminded of something.

"Hey Thor," he brought the little dragon's attention back to himself, "You never did tell me why your not with your flock. I mean, you're still pretty young right? Shouldn't you be with your flock or whatever?"

The Grapple Grounder winced and curled into himself slightly. He looked away muttered something softly under his breath and Rin

strained to hear it.

"Huh?" the exorcist said as he sat up, "What was that? You were mumbling."

Thor huffed and lowered himself further onto the ground, "I said that I was left behind."

"Left behind?" Rin said as his eyebrows met. He knew dragons and salamanders usually left their young on their own after a certain age but Thor was still slightly too small to be left on his own.

Thor looked away, "I wasn't strong enough to make the great flight from the breeding grounds to the upper territories. My flock left me here to get stronger while they went on ahead. I was told that they would wait for me just past the Shockjaw nests in one of those islands but that's still quite far."

"They couldn't have just carried you on one of their backs? Didn't you say that you used to catch a ride with your mother a lot?" Rin asked feeling a bit miffed that the dragons would leave one of their young to die while they went on to better pastures. "And what're 'Shockjaw' anyway?"

Thor shook his head, "I have to grow strength of my own or I won't make it past the Shockjaw nest. A Shockjaw is a sea dragon that shoots lightning at you as you fly by. My flock would normally warn them away with a fireball."

"Oh..." Rin understood why they had to leave him behind now. It was to make sure they he could survive the flight over the sea. If one of his flock tried to carry him and they got targeted then both him and his caretaker would become fish food. Rin reached over and gave Thor a good scratch behind the horn, "Hey don't you worry. I'll help you get strong so you can beat up those Shockjaws no sweat."

Thor leaned into his hand and hummed, "I don't need your help. I can learn to use my fire on my own."

"Sure you can, Sparky." Rin lied back down and was content to just live in the peacefulness but a rush of birds leaving the trees shattered his perfect moment.

The half-demon shot to his feet as he watched the last of the birds streak away into the distance. The forest was silent after that but the hairs on the back of Rin's neck stood on end and his tail lashed out in response to his now-frayed nerves.

"Rin?" Thor whined and curled around the teen's legs, "What's that smell?"

Rin spared the red dragon a glance before he lifted his head to scent the air. His body tensed as he recognized the smell. Demons. Lots of them and the scent was getting stronger.

"C'mon Sparky!" Rin shouted as he ran in the direction the birds had fled, "We're leaving now!"

Without waiting for an answer Rin sprinted towards the treeline though just as they were about to reach it a loud chattering filled

the air. Rin risked a look behind him and cursed. Coming their way was a large cluster of Coal tar, the majority of them having already joined together to create a large ever changing monster. Thankfully the cloud of tiny demons were so focused on the hunt that they didn't notice much of anything.

Thor hissed and clawed at his pants, "What are these?!"

Rin looked back to find that, no not all of the Coal Tar had focused on whatever they were chasing and had started to swarm around Thor. There was only about a bees hive worth fluttering about in between them but it was enough to slow Thor down and draw more Coal Tar towards the slowly weakening prey.

"Gah! Why did you have to shout and bring their attention down to us!" Rin doubled on back and with a quick burst of fire all of the Coal Tar that had been swarming Thor turned to dust. Not wanting to risk the hatchling slowing him down, Rin gathered the dragon in his arms and started running.

"Rin!" Thor screeched, "What are these creatures!"

"They're Coal Tar and a lot of them too." Rin said as he ran, "They're normally harmless on their own but when they start doing that," he pointed to the large black monster that could be seen through the trees, "they start to become a problem."

"Why can't you just burn them?" Thor asked as he wound himself around Rin's waist allowing him to use his arms again.

"There's too many of them right now." Rin shouted as he flicked a stray demon away from his face, "I could probably do it but they're all too spread out. I need 'em in one small area."

Branches snapping from above them brought Rin to a complete halt and he held his arms in front of him as a huge load of Coal Tar were displaced. Rin squinted at the large mound within the cloud of demons and he swore he recognized it somehow. The mound shifted and growled, a pair of bright green eyes snapped open. Those venomous green eyes confirmed what Rin had feared. The rider and his dragon were in the middle of that mess. The black dragon, Fangless or something, was being swarmed by a large amount of Coal tar and it didn't look like he was going to last long if things kept up like this.

Rin made a split second decision and rushed forward, pulling his sword from his belt loop as he ran. Fangless noticed him the moment he drew his sword but could do nothing as a wave of blue fire engulfed them all. Rin concentrated as he tempered his fire to burn away only the tiny dust demons and not the dragons around him or the forest and hoped that things would work out right. The Coal Tar screeched as they died but more of the stupid things rushed to take the place of the fallen demons. Rin pumped out more and more fire, making sure it would jump from demon to another until he was sure that all the demon's in the immediate area had been incinerated. He fell to his knees in a heaving, sweating mess when he finally let off the flames but was pleased to see that only a few confused Coal Tar remained.

"What are you doing, Demon." Fangless hissed. He still hadn't gotten up from his huddled position and Rin wasn't going to complain. The

longer the dragon stayed down the more time he had to catch his breath.

"What kind of 'thank you' is that?!" Rin growled as he tried to control his breathing, "I did just save your sorry but from becoming demon chow."

The dragon hissed, "I could shoot you down where you sit, monkey demon, do not test me."

A smaller hiss ran out, "You leave him alone!"

The black dragon bared his teeth at Thor, "What are you doing, hatchling? Get away from him! That's a demon you are coiled around!"

"I know that, Night Fury. I was on his back when he helped save you and your friend." Thor shot sparks as he spoke and Fangless reeled.

Confused by Thor's words, Rin gave a closer look to what exactly is was that the black dragon was holding. At first he didn't see anything but then the dragon shifted and a tuft of hair between the dragons wings became visible. A muffled cough reached his ears and Fangless tensed and looked down.

"Hey, uhh Fangless, who's that you got there?" Rin pointed to the tuft of hair, "Don't you think he needs to breathe?"

The Night Fury gave them one last sharp glare before opening his wings to reveal a very sickly looking viking. Hiccup, as Rin remembered the viking said his name was, looked awful. His eyebrows were knit, skin was clammy with sweat and his breathing ragged.

"He didn't breath in any Coal Tar did he?" Rin asked as he slowly approached.

"I-i don't know." Fangless moaned then noticed Rin approaching and growled, "You stay away from him!" Showing his teeth clearly as a warning sign.

"Relax! I can help." Rin seethed his sword.

Clearly, Fangless didn't believe him.

"I'm serious! I can purify any damage the Coal Tar might've done."

The dragon eyed him warily, clearly torn, "How can I trust that you're not lying to me? Your kind is known for their trickery."

Rin snorted, "Why would I save you, use up a load of energy and then kill you? That makes absolutely no sense! I could have let the Coal Tar get you and then run away while they were eating. So are you going to let me do this or not?"

"Fine." Fangless growled, "But I will burn you if you harm him."

The dragon gently moved Hiccup off his wing and onto the soft ground.

He curled his tail around the viking protectively but let Rin approach with no other complaints. Rin snorted at the overprotective dragon but couldn't blame the guy. He wouldn't have trusted a demon either. Rin knelt down besides Hiccup and breathed deeply.

Holding out his hand, he willed a soft flame to appear around Hiccup and concentrated, he made sure to make sure that it just burned demonic essence and not the human beneath him. Rin seriously hoped that it would work, as he wasn't completely sure what he was doing. Back when they faced the Impure King in Kyoto, he had burned away all of the demon's rotting touch from the mountain and cleaned the air of his spores. Killing miasma generated from the Impure King might be slightly different from what ever Coal Tar do to your lungs but it was better than nothing. When Hiccup's face eased up slightly and became more relaxed Rin released his flames.

He scratched the back of his head, "Well I'm not sure if that did it, but he should be okay for now. Just tell him when he wakes up to go get a check-up just in case 'cuz I'm no doctor."

Fangless sniffed his rider's hair and his pupils enlarged, "Ah! He doesn't smell of Coal Tar any more!"

Rin huffed and puffed out his chest, "Well yeah. And you can thank me for that."

Thor, driven by curiosity, unwound himself from his perch and went down to investigate the human laying in front of them. He sniffed curiously at all the many folds in the viking's clothing but screeched out in alarm when he got too close to the larger dragon and was hoisted into the air. He wiggled weakly and tried to release himself from Fangless' grip but ultimately fell limp in the end.

"Thank you for your assistance, demon." Toothless said through a mouthful of baby dragon, "But you are no longer needed here. Please feel free to leave for your little fire realm."

Rin could only gape as Toothless put Thor down and stepped on his tail to keep him from running away. He then flipped Hiccup over onto his stomach before maneuvering his head under the Viking's body and having the teen slide onto his neck (Rin decided not to question why the dragon used the tree as a stopper when the viking's body kept on rolling off his head). Once he was sure that Hiccup was in place Toothless grabbed Thor in his mouth again and trotted off into the forest.

"H-hey!" Rin shouted as he followed them into the forest, "You can't just decide that you're taking Thor with you! And your going the wrong way! That's were the Coal Tar are!"

Toothless snorted, "I can protect them both from the pests."

"No you can't!" Rin shouted as he marched alongside the dragon, tail swiping angrily, "Hiccup is recovering and if you send him back into the swarm he might get sick again! And you can't just take Thor!"

"I agree." Thor agreed weakly as he swung in the dragon's mouth. The overall image of him swinging in the larger dragons mouth reminded Rin of a mother cat moving her kittens.

"Oi! Fangless!" Rin shouted, "Listen to me! Just wait until he wakes up! At least then you two can fly out of here and avoid the demons and whatever!"

The dragon faltered in his march back to the village and grumbled softly, "Fine! We'll go to The Cove then! And my name is _Toothless_, you idiotic demon, not _Fangless_." Whoops. Rin would have to make sure to remember that. He had been calling the dragon the wrong thing this entire time.

Rin wasn't sure where 'The Cove' was but he was happy that Toothless wasn't taking Thor into the village because he wasn't sure he'd be able to follow. The village was a place filled with many weapon savvy Vikings that were just itching to rip him a new one and he was sure that heading back there would just cause more problems than it would fix. They couldn't even understand a word he said for goodness sake!

Hiccup slipped slightly off Toothless' back and Rin caught him before he fell to the ground. Toothless stopped to allow Rin to shift his rider back into place and promptly put a wing between them once he was sure that Hiccup was sitting securely on his back. The quick movement of his large black wing created a small gust of wind that rustled both teens clothing and something fell out of Hiccup's pocket.

"You will keep your distance from now on," he warned, "I have no intention on letting myself be tricked by you, demon."

"If this is how you treat the guy who saved your butt I would hate to see how you treat your friends." Rin muttered as something caught his eye. "And my name is Rin. Rin Okumura."

Toothless paid him no heed and carried on walking, leaving the young exorcist behind to walk over and examine the piece of paper that had fluttered to the ground when Hiccup's clothing had been uplifted by the small wind. Rin picked up the slightly damp but most definitely high quality piece of pink folded paper that practically screamed Mepshisto. The puppy and heart stickers didn't exactly dis-allude him.

He flipped it open and sure enough, there was his half-brother's curly writing and horrible doodles all over the page.

Dearest Rin,

Seeing as you're reading this I would assume that you're alive. Congratulations!~ Not many can venture into my beloved clock and live to tell the tale. Tehee! Anyhoo!~

As you may have deduced... my clock is broken and as such I have no idea where you are because of that!~ But not to worry because big brother will come right over to where ever you are and come fetch you once my clock is fixed!

Have fun little brother and don't get killed!~ Amaimon would be so displeased if you were to die.

_P.S- I've sent a smidgen of translator goop with this hobgoblin. I

can only imagine what barbaric lands you have found yourself in and it would be terribly tragic if you found yourself unable to speak with the inhabitants. (I shan't mention your less than stellar English marks after all~)_

Rin gripped the edge of the powder pink page tightly in his hand and fought the urge to set the thing alight. With an astounding amount of self control he stuffed the note into his pocket and followed after the retreating form of Toothless.

What hobgoblin and goop was Mephisto talking about? Was it maybe that one he had gotten a glimpse of when he had escaped that ring? And what was he supposed to do now? Knowing Mephisto, the clown most probably sent about half a million demon's out to search for him and hoped that Rin got the message eventually. He seriously hoped the damn clown would remember to fix the clock. And do a recon to see what goblin didn't come back seeing as he chopped the one that came through to this place into many tiny pieces.

-o0o-

**Okay so here's an omake as an apology for taking so long to get this chapter out. **

-o0o-

The longer Rin stared at the charred ground surrounding the fire pit, the more he found his confusion growing. How was that even possible? Thor wasn't able to create even a small flame, let alone one big and hot enough to scar solid rock.

"Oi! Thor," Rin called over his shoulder, "how did you manage to burn that fish from before? You know? The one you turned into charcoal."

The dragon slithered over to his side and cocked his head, "Well I used my fire breath, obviously."

Now Rin was really confused. The sparks the little red dragon made were nowhere near that powerful.

"Mhmm." Rin hummed, "I'll believe that when I see it, Sparky."

The hatchling gave Rin an indignant look and smoke billowed from his nostrils, "My name is not Sparky and I really did do it on my own. Here, I'll do it again."

Rin raised an eyebrow but otherwise didn't move, he was curious to see what the baby dragon would do. Thor gave him a look of fierce determination before turning his gaze to the ground and concentrating.

His pupils changed from their oval shape into tiny slits and his wings shifted as his shoulders tensed. The small dragon opened his mouth and the cave was filled with the sound of gas leaving a canister. Rin bent down low and looked into the dragon's mouth to find that a thick green gas was gathering in the back of his throat.

Thor made fire similar to the way he used to when he held out a

deodorant can and set the mist alight with a lighter. Burning things with a home-made flame thrower was always fun; even if it meant that he had to read the bible sermons in church on Sundays as punishment. It was actually pretty cool.

Well... it was cool until the green gas started pouring out of the Grapple Grounder's mouth and Rin was suddenly reminded of all those times that the deodorant trick went horribly wrong.

Thor made a clicking sound in the back of his throat and reminding Rin of the flint of the lighter and sending the hairs on his tail on end. This was not going to end well. Rin dove behind the rock he had been resting against and peaked over it just in time to see a spark ignite the green gas. There was a mighty boom that racked the cave and sand from the cave ceiling rained down from above. Once the ringing in his ears stopped, Rin decided to see the damage the little dragon had caused.

Rin peaked over his rock and couldn't help but laugh. "You know," he said, "I'm pretty sure you have to breathe outwards when you're trying to do that. I don't think having all that stuff blow up in your face is all that fun."

Thor, who was hanging upside down on the far side of the cave from a pillar-like rock, growled and turned himself right side up. His once vibrant red scales were now black with soot and his mouth was still smoking.

"Oh thut up. I'll geth it nexth time."

Rin laughed even harder as the dragon hopped down from the pillar and went off in search of finding some water to dip his tongue into.

-o0o-

Uhhh haha errm... yeah. So this chapter took waayyyy too long to come out and i apologize. I suffered a bout of writers block for about a month before i finally managed to write something that wasn't utter poop. I also had school to deal with so that didn't help. I'm not sure if you guys know this but in South Africa school starts in a January and goes through to December so I'm not actually on holiday and won't be for a while. So I'm actually pretty busy.

Okay so i was asked where exactly in the BE timeline this takes place in and the answer would be in the manga-verse before the illuminati arc, just before the festival where there isn't much going on. From my understanding if i take it from there that would mean that Rin would have been an exorcist for just about a year. With a year under his belt Rin is bound to have learned something in class so he could handle himself on berk without being totally clueless.

**Can I just say how surprised I am with how much attention this story has gotten? I think I'm going to have to switch to only answering guest reviews here because my sister pointed out to me just how long this AN is. Don't get me wrong I LOOOOVE reviews. I just don't want to deter people from reading them when I might have important notes in them. **

****i'll answer the reviews now so those who dont wanna read it can skip this part.****

Sincerely The Sign Painter: ****thanks as always for the review i hoped you liked this chapter****

BackMinx17: ****it really makes me happy to hear that my story is unique and stuff. Thanks a bunch!******
>

A Stranger 0.0: ****thanks for the review uhh darling? i'm glad that you decided to forgo the heart attack giving this time X3****

StrayDogHowling028: **** yo! okay so lemme start off by saying thanks for the review but i was hoping to elaborate here. i didnt actually mean for Hiccup to get a temptaint like that cz in my head all the vikings got theirs when they first fought a dragon but hey! that works too!****

CynicalCNCyanide: **** i'm glad you like the story and its plot! i try really hard to come up with stuff that would interest you guys!****

Maximum Ride12345: ****Can i just say that you are amazing for reviewing every time? like seriously.****

Only a Guest: ****wassup buddy? we spoke earlier so i guess the only thing left to say is No. No hiccup didn't take being able to understand Toothless well at all and that's kinda how i wanted it to be ya know? because come on. who wouldnt freak in that situation?****

bluesonicblast: ****lol, i can feel your enthusiasm through my computer******
>

akira demonio12: ****english maybe?****

general zargon: ****you know. i really look forward to your reviews... they always make me think. personally i think this chapter had a lot of room for improvement and im kinda waiting for you to point out where i went wrong so i can get working on it. well that was embarrassing...****

: ****stop it you... "best"? naah but thanks for the compliment****

*****Lily: ****you see that asterisks here next to your name? yeah that one. Well thats there because you are _amazing!_ you reviewed for every chapter and every chapter you reviewed with a lengthy bit of your thoughts. Like seriously... you rock... you don't perhaps want to log into or create an account so i can thank you properly?****

Child of Happiness: ****four times? _four times_? aahhhhhh i could just cry... to think you would reread my story _and _still settle my worries about Hiccup being OOC! ****

****thanks to **Crazy4678**, **FanGir1257**, **Spikal The**

Dragonslayer**, **Guests 1 and 2** and** Sket Fan** for reviewing and motivating me to get off my butt and write!**

6. Fated conversations

*****pulls out computer and chokes on dust cloud.*** **uhhh sorry for the wait guys! Didn't mean for the gap between this chapter and the last! The title of the fic has changed in case any one hasn't noticed. I thought the old one lacked imagination._

-o0o-

After spending some time with the demon, Toothless came to one solid conclusion about him. And that was that he was totally different from the rest of his kin.

Barring the fact that he controlled the Blue Fire and had the appearance of a possessed one, the boy didn't smell like the powerful demon he was supposed to be. Yes, he had the almost overpowering aura of the demon royalty but he didn't have the smell of a possessed one, like their cousins the salamanders do.

Salamanders were often mistaken for dragons at first glance. Big, reptilian, burning fiery breath, all features that one would use to define a dragon except there was one difference that set them apart; dragons were born dragons. Salamanders were the product of demons crossing over from their terrible realm, possessing lesser reptilians and taking the poor creature's body for their own. They were parasites and thus the body they inhabited would eventually come to reject them being there. It wasn't unusual for the host body to start rotting from the inside out or for organs to start to shut down due to the sudden influx or introduction of power that wasn't usually there.

Though there were also times where the demon and its host were so compatible that they would fuse and eventually become one, those was few and far between. Those cases often went on to become the start of a new species of creatures that would start to become indigenous to Midgard as opposed to Muspelheim. If he wasn't mistaken that was how dragons actually originated back in the beginning but that was ancient history and dragons no longer associated themselves with the filth that was demons.

Looking at the grumbling demon walking slightly off to his side, Toothless couldn't help but notice that he didn't have the smell of rot or fresh blood that normally accompanied a Possessed One. Which was odd because the teen had the blue flames of hell so he was definitely demon royalty. Toothless narrowed his eyes. Why was one of the royal family even here? And how was this Rin related to them.

"Stop glaring holes into my back," Rin muttered, "If you have a problem with me then come out and say it instead of trying to set me alight with your eyes."

Toothless bared his teeth, "Who are you? You are too childish to be a demon of high stature and that body seems to be yours, which should be impossible, so that further rules out your being royalty. So who exactly are you?"

"Well he's obviously Rin." the hatchling said as he fluttered above the demon's head. Toothless wrinkled his nose as he settled on said demon's shoulders. Honestly, how can he stand that awful aura? It made his scales feel tight and his claws itch yet that hatchling felt nothing!

"I know his name, little Grapple Grounder," Toothless rolled his eyes, "I want to know where he stands in relation with the demons' lord."

Rin startled for a moment, his eyes wide and his tail stiff, before he composed himself. "That old fart is my father," he spat, "I'm half demon."

Toothless nearly dropped Hiccup the way he jerked his head to quickly to the side, "Father! Your father is Satan and he let you out of the realm on your own? I would've thought that one of the princes would be watched like a hawk!"

Flames sparked in Rin's eyes and he turned to bare his teeth at Toothless; a not-so-subtle warning.

Honestly Toothless found himself shell shocked for a moment. This entire time he had gotten so used to the odd demon and his even odder docile personality that the change to semi-threatening demon heir to the throne was quite the shock. Toothless felt his own anger rise at the blatant threat and a growl slipped past his lips. Rin flinched and sucked in a breath, his fire evaporating. Toothless continued to growl and the demon backed away.

"I will not retaliate to your insolence this time because you helped with the Coal Tar," Toothless said in a lowly voice, "But be warned. I won't be so forgiving next time."

Rin nodded, looking absolutely horrified. The colour had drained from his face and his tail stilled. When Toothless snapped at him to make way he offered no resistance and readily made space for the dragon to pass by him.

Normally Toothless would've burned at whatever insolent creature try challenge a Night Fury but this was a demon that the demon god himself sired and he was not to be underestimated. His fire could burn through anything, that included the normally fireproof scales of a dragon. Even if Toothless was sure that he would come out victorious if they ever were to do battle, he wouldn't get off unharmed.

Never mind the fact that if the rest of the demon realm found out about the great disrespect done to one of their princes no one in the archipelago would be safe from their collective wrath...

Rin walked a respectable wing's breadth away from them and breathed a heavy sigh, his shoulders drooped heavily and his head hung slightly. "Sorry about that. I didn't mean to snap at you."

Toothless scanned the teen's body language for any signs of betrayal and was happy that the demon was at least being truthful about that when he couldn't see anything amiss.

"But that bastard is not my father." he said in a monotonous voice, "He may be my biological father but my dad died protecting me from him. I will never accept him as my father so don't go around calling that man my parent."

Rin clenched his fists and picked up speed soon after. With the muscles in his shoulders so tight and his tail lashing this way and that it was clear to Toothless that he was upset. The hatchling rushed after him and hovered close to his side muttering quick soothing words in attempt to calm him down. Toothless didn't mind being left behind to walk at his own pace. He actually preferred walking in the rear end, it gave him an opportunity to examine the demon and make a quick escape if need be.

Rin was a true son of Satan, a rightful heir to a throne and potential candidate to become one of the demon kings. And he had just denied that the demon god was his father, forsaking all the things he would've gotten as his birthright. Toothless couldn't understand. What kind of idiot wouldn't want to be an alpha?

Sighing, he adjusted Hiccup on his back and followed after the demon and hatchling. The Grapple Grounder had spoken of a cave they can retreat to and settle down while they wait for Hiccup to wake up. Toothless couldn't decide if he was happy that his rider wasn't awake for that slightly unsettling scene of an agitated demon or irritated that he was still unconscious and thus unable to fly them away from the prince and those irritating little gnats called Coal Tar.

-o0o-

The walk back to the cave was a tense and awkward. Normally Rin would've cracked a joke or gone off to look at anything interesting that caught his eye or even irritate one of the other exwires but this wasn't True Cross nor was it an official exorcist mission. Not by a long shot. He couldn't exactly back track and apologize to the dragon he tried to intimidate him into submission. Yukio had told him time and time again to get rid of that particular habit because one day it was going to come back to bite him in the butt. Truthfully, he felt awful that he actually let loose that much that he growled at the dragon.

Rin knocked a fisted hand to his forehead. Growling! Since when did he do that so readily? Sure he did it once or twice when he was really mad or a particularly irritating demon kept on pestering him. A show of power was a sure way to get low level demons to leave you alone but that didn't change the fact that exorcists don't growl at demons!

People had called him a demon for as long as he could remember and for an equally long time Rin remembered trying to show them that they were wrong. He tried everything from helping out grannies that were stuck in their yard to getting down kids balloons from trees. Nothing he did ever worked and eventually Rin stopped trying.

Finding out that all those terrible ladies at the daycare had always been right had hurt. A lot. So Rin started up his efforts to show people that they were wrong. This time he aimed to show them that even if he was a demon he could still be a good guy and an exorcist.

And it worked for a while. It worked right up to the point where he became totally comfortable with his demon heritage in public. It was then that the problems started.

As it turns out people, exorcists in particular, didn't take well to him having his tail out. Or him speaking to their familiars. Or when his old temper would rear its ugly head and he would snarl at a particularly irritating demon. They _especially_ didn't like it when he would use his fire.

It wasn't like he could help the, sometimes quite overwhelming, instincts that screamed to him at times. Most of the time he could ignore them but sometimes it was nice to just let loose.

Getting that distrustful dragon to back off was really satisfying at the moment but now? Now he just felt bad for shouting at the guy. He didn't know and if he was in his shoes he probably would've done the same. Or maybe not...

"Hey Rin!" Thor jumped onto his head and sent his arms wind milling as he tried to regain his balance, "What're you thinking so hard about?"

"Maybe I was wondering why you insist on ramming my head every time you get bored." Rin muttered. He had meant it as a joke but the little dragon seemed to take it as a serious question.

"Hmm," Thor hummed, "I don't think that was really what you were thinking about."

Rin rolled his eyes, "I wasn't but it doesn't really matter. Why don't you go on ahead and make sure there's a spot where we can lay Hiccup down on. A really smooth area with no sharp pointy rocks. Can you do that? Because if you can't I'm sure there's some bigger better dragons out there that could help."

"Of course I can do it!" Thor puffed his chest out, apparently quite insulted. "Who are you to doubt me?" He then proceeded to use Rin's head as a spring board and launch himself into the air.

Rin shouted out in alarm as he was suddenly thrown backwards and onto his back. He laid there in a daze for a moment before deciding that when he finally caught up to the little nuisance, he'd turn him into a purse. A soft snort broke into his plotting and Rin lifted his chin to see an upside down Night Fury.

"I didn't realize that the hatchling used you as a perch." Toothless said, pausing his trotting for a moment to sneer at Rin before moving along.

"Yeah well I didn't either until you pointed it out." he got up and dusted himself off. Pulling some sticks out of his hair Rin watched as Toothless hopped over a small rock, forgetting that his rider wasn't seated firmly in his saddle.

Hiccup's arm lolled off the side of Toothless' back and he started to tilt. The dragon growled in annoyance and tried to angle his shoulders to keep his rider in the right position but every time he slanted one shoulder Hiccup would just roll over onto the next. Rin

watched this go on for about five minutes before he couldn't take it any more.

"Here," he lifted his arms to catch the other teen, "lemme help you."

Rin managed to get about a meter away from Toothless before the dragon's wings snapped open and a soft growl halted him. Rin stilled and held up his hands.

"That is far enough demon." Toothless growled, his eyes almost glowing a toxic green. Rin was sure the sight would've terrified most but thankfully he had seen much scarier things (take Satan for example) in his life so a big lizard glaring at you wasn't so bad.

"All right, all right. I'll stay away." Rin grumbled. He had hoped that during the time that they were going to be spending with each other they could have at least gotten onto better terms with each other. Unfortunately, he had ruined any chances of that when he snapped at the dragon. "I won't come any closer so you can relax."

"You better not." Toothless growled and carried on walking away before muttering softly, "Anyone relaxing in the presence of a demon should be fed to a pack of hungry Speed Stingers. Idiocy is contagious after all."

"I heard that, you know." Rin muttered and shot the dragon a withering glare.

Toothless huffed, "It's not like I was trying to make sure you didn't."

Rin was silent for a moment and stared at the dragon, his mood suddenly somber. "I know demons aren't the most trust worthy guys out there but I'd like to think I'm different. I might have inherited that bastard's flames but that doesn't mean I go around burning every town or village I come across to the ground. It's not my fault that nobody believes me when I say that."

Rin shook his head and continued on, leaving the dragon behind. The cave he and Thor had stayed in the previous night came into sight and with it a small dragon that fluttered near the entrance to the cave.

"Rin!" Thor thrummed as the exwire approached, "I cleared a spot just like I said I would and it's in the best spot in the whole cave!"

And it was. The little dragon had cleared a spot near the center of the cave and made sure to push all the small pebbles that had previously been there aside and into a neat pile. The cleared area was actually in a pretty good spot. It was out of reach of the mouth of the cave if the weather turned sour and rained during the night and it wasn't too far back so the cold that the cave naturally gave off wasn't so biting.

Crouching down Rin touched his hand to the floor. Hmm. They'd have to get something for Hiccup to lay on. If they let him lay down on the

icy floor of the cave while he was still recovering he might get sick. Rin looked outside and craned his neck to peer up at the sky. The sun was still up but it wasn't terribly high any more, in a few hours the sun would reach the horizon and then the temperature would drop as night time took over. They would need some wood for a fire too, Rin belatedly realized.

The past night he slept in the cave was awful. The temperature of the damn cave dropped so drastically during the night Rin found that it was warmer outside on the flat boulder he found and even then he'd had to use his flames to keep himself warm. A few leaves to cover the ground won't keep the unconscious viking warm but it was better than sleeping on cold damp rock.

"Oi! Thor, c'mon! We're going out to collect some stuff!" he called to the hatchling then turned to the larger dragon who had just slunk in, "I'm going to go get some wood for fire. Make sure Hiccup doesn't lay directly on the floor for a while. I'll send Thor with some leaves for him to lay on in a bit."

Toothless didn't say anything but he did nod so Rin took that as his sign to set off and start the tedious task of collecting dry fire wood. It might take a while since it had rained the previous night but it was a while until nightfall so it didn't bother Rin too much. A soft gurgle interrupted his thoughts and Rin put a hand on his stomach. Maybe he could get something to eat while he was at it too.

God, he really wished he hadn't been transported back into practically the _stone age_... a hamburger or even some cup ramen would really go down right now.

-o0o-

_The first thing Hiccup realized when he came to was that he was falling. He was falling from a terrifyingly dizzy height and _there was no one there to catch him.

_His breath caught in his throat and his limbs suddenly had minds of their own. His arms flailed helplessly and his bones felt as if they had been turned to jelly. Even with his hair slapping almost painfully against his skin Hiccup could not distract himself from the horror of the image of the distant ground coming up to meet him. At this angle Hiccup was sure that he was going to hit the ground head first and all that was going to be left of him was a sickening red splatter on the ground. Hiccup's head whipped side to side. Where was Toothless? _

_As if summoned by his thoughts a familiar roar, faint over the sound of rushing wind but still there, reached his ears. Hope blossomed in Hiccup's chest and he struggled against the wind to look above him. There just above his feet was Toothless. The black dragon was hovering just out of reach, his draconian features pulled into an awful sneer as he watched his best friend fall. _

_Hiccup screamed for help but no word came out of his mouth. Gripping his throat with two hands Hiccup felt his heart sink even further as Toothless laughed, a terrible cold sound that Hiccup often used to hear during the dragon raids and a particularly large dragon found him alone, and pointed towards the ground. On reflex Hiccup turned to

see what Toothless was pointing at and the world turned cold as the gaping maw of the Green Death awaited him, fire already rushing up from its mouth to meet him. Hiccup tore his gaze away from the impossibly large figure and turned to plea with Toothless to _hurry up and save him!_ Toothless didn't move though. Instead with one last laugh he burst into many tiny creatures that hovered in the air before darting towards him and pulling him down. _

Thrashing Hiccup tried to swat the tiny black things with large eyes and tiny pointed tails but it didn't work. They laughed at him as the heat of the fire brushed his back and engulfed him.

-oOo-

"AHHHHHHH!" Hiccup woke with a scream and shot up right. His heart was pumping and his hair was plastered flat against his forehead. There was the sound of something falling to the ground somewhere off to his side and his head to face the sound. A pair of eerily glowing blue eyes hanging in the middle of the darkness awaited him and Hiccup started the screaming afresh. The eyes took on a surprised shape and started screaming too.

"_GAHHHHHHH!_"

"_BWAAAHHHHHHH!_"

Their screaming was cut short when an might roar echoed through the room and the eyes were suddenly blocked from view. Huge meaty arms wrapped themselves around his shoulders and drew Hiccup against a warm body and for a moment he was content to just hanging there in their embrace as he struggled to regain his breath and calm his frantically beating heart. His lungs clenched painfully for a moment but it was only a momentary thing and was gone in a matter of seconds. From within the darkness Hiccup heard a muffled conversation go on.

"Will you shut up?" an angry voice seethed, "You're scaring him!"

"Well _so-rry! _He was the one that scared the shit out of _me!_" another unfamiliar voice shot back, "How was I supposed to know he was going to start screaming?"

"Well what do you expect? I'd also scream if I woke to that." the second voice hissed and the arms holding Hiccup tightened.

"Are you calling me ugly? Because that would be rich coming from you!"

"Ha! I can think of Gronckles better looking than you!"

Hiccup's eyebrows knit in confusion as he listened to the two voices outside the darkness. Looking around and upwards Hiccup was surprised to see Toothless' head above his. Why Toothless was holding Hiccup within his wings the young viking didn't know but he was going to find out.

"What's going on?" he muttered before he could stop himself and

immediately the dragons wings snapped open and light blinded Hiccup for a moment. Hiccup slowly opened his eyes as Toothless placed him on the ground again and then started his examination of his body. Toothless sniffed at a rapid rate along his body. Frantically mother henning as his clothes were poked and prodded followed by a brief search through his hair.

A small huff drew the viking's attention away from the fussing dragon and Hiccup found the owner of the blue eyes that had scared him so in the first place. There, sitting on the other end of a brightly burning fire, was Rin. The demon looked far from pleased as he glared at Toothless but then he noticed that he was being watched and caught Hiccup's eye. For a moment Hiccup felt his stomach twist in awful anticipation. The other voice...

There was no way that he heard Rin speaking right? He must have hit his head really hard in that fall. Maybe he was still asleep? Hiccup's fingers twitched as he considered pinching himself but the demon's piercing gaze held him in place. The air was steadily becoming thicker and Hiccup wondered how much more he could take before the pressure got too much but then the Rin's eyes abruptly lost their sharp quality and he smiled.

"Hey, good to see you awake." he said conversationally.

Hiccup was floored, that was perfect Norse!

"I can understand you..." Hiccup said in disbelief as Rin jolted. The young viking put a hand to his head and checked for any injuries, "This can't be happening. I'm still dreaming. First Toothless now Rin. What's next? Elder Gothi breaking her vow of silence?"

"Hiccup?" Rin broke into his muttering, "Are you okay? Maybe you should lay down?"

Hiccup scoffed, "No thank you. I'd really like to find out if I'm dreaming or not."

Rin sucked in a sharp breath and his eyes became impossibly wide, breaking into a sharp toothed grin he shouted out in an awe filled voice, "Hey! You can speak now!"

"He's always been able to speak, you insufferable monkey." Toothless muttered. The young viking looked towards the dragon and frowned at the unfamiliar snarl on the face of his normally friendly friend.

"Shuddup!" Rin snapped back in equal irritation, all previous friendliness gone, "How was I supposed to know he was going to reply? I thought I was just being friendly!"

Toothless growled and Hiccup instinctively put a hand on his side to calm him. He wasn't sure why Toothless was being so hostile towards Rin, in his mind he had already filed it under the ever growing list of 'things that exist to make Hiccup's life difficult'.

"Hey easy there bud." Toothless settled but he didn't look happy about it. Turning Hiccup met the gaze of the highly amused Rin. The demon shook his head and raised an eyebrow.

"Nice lap dog you got there, you trained him well." he commented, "Almost roasted me alive when I tried to help out with those Coal Tar."

"Lapdog?! I am no mangy pet." Toothless bristled but Hiccup ignored him. His mind was reeling.

"Coal Tar?" he echoed and then remembered with a shudder the sneering faces of the tiny black things that attacked him both in his dream and in real life. His face must have showed his discomfort because Rin stopped smiling.

"Hey," he called, "you all right there? I really think you should lay down. You're looking seriously pale."

Hiccup shook his head and tried to take deep calming breaths... only to start coughing as his chest started to hurt. Putting a hand to his mouth Hiccup doubled over as something wet hit the inside of his palm. Pulling his hand away from his mouth Hiccup was horrified to see little specks of black on the inside of his hand.

"Shit!" Rin swore and rushed around the fire. He didn't get far though as Toothless rushed to intercept him. The dragon stood like an iron wall between the coughing human and the demon. His large wing blocking out the majority of light of the fire.

"Stay where you are!" Toothless growled but then turned to whine helplessly at his human, "Hiccup? Hiccup what's happening? Why are you hacking? Let's go to the village now, yes? Well get your Old One to heal you."

"There's no time!" Rin shouted and tried to skirt around the dragon but there was just not enough space in the cave, "Move aside so I can help him, you retarded lizard! I helped out the last time didn't I?"

Toothless visibly hesitated, clearly unsure. Hiccup wasn't sure what they were talking about but his chest was starting to feel as if people were knocking nails into them. If Rin had any way of making the almost unbearable pain stop then who was he to argue? Putting a hand on Toothless' side Hiccup pleaded with his eyes and the dragon crumbled under his stare.

Toothless retracted his wing and Rin wasted no time in dashing forward. With hands that were surprisingly gentle he eased Hiccup onto a lush bed of leaves that he didn't notice were there before. Rin reached over and pulled his rolled up vest thing under Hiccup's head and then got to work. His hands ignited in soft flames and Hiccup stared in horror and he lowered them to his face. He reeled backwards and Rin paused before sighing.

"I know this is looks like I'm going to melt your face off but just trust me on this I know what I'm doing." when Hiccup didn't look convinced he picked up one of the leaves and showed it to the viking. Hiccup's eyes widened as the blue flames coating Rin's fingers curled around the leaf but didn't burn it. "See? I won't burn you. I'm just going to purify the air in your lungs. All I need you to do is breathe."

"Your hands are on _fire_." Hiccup choked out, "How is that supposed to help?"

"It will!" Rin's eyes flickered red and Hiccup was violently reminded that the person in front of him was a _demon, _"Look I've been working on this all year with my brother. He's a doctor and he was the one that pushed for me to learn this to help out. So are you going to let me help you or not?"

Another painful hacking cough racked Hiccup's body and he caved. Nodding to Rin to proceed, Hiccup flinched when the blue fire came close but didn't object. The flame covered hands came to rest just above his face, cupping his mouth and nose but never touching. Hiccup was surprised to find that the flames didn't hurt. They were actually quite warm and gave off a comforting feeling.

"Breathe." Rin ordered and Hiccup hastily let out a breath he didn't know he had been holding. Almost immediately the pain eased. Acting like a soothing balm on a burn, Hiccup found that each time he breathed in the pain in his chest lessened. Eventually the pain ceased to exist and Rin's hands lifted. After a brief examination Rin's eyebrows took a dip.

"Well that's the most I can do for now but it should be hold until you get back to your village. I'd suggest either getting some medicine or something to help with the exorcism of the left over taint or maybe sitting with your head over a bowl of holy water. The steam'll help clean out the rest of the gunk. I haven't had much practice with purifying and I normally have a friend to help me out with this kind of thing."

Hiccup listened as the demon rambled not caring to a stop to it any time soon, he was too preoccupied with the total lack of pain in his chest. It was like he had munched on mint leaves; his airways were completely clear! Sitting up Hiccup opened his mouth to launch into the first of many questions that were bouncing around in his head when his back stiffened and his stomach suddenly revolted. Twisting to the side Hiccup lost all of his lunch. It was lucky that he had only had a piece of bread and cheese that morning because Hiccup wasn't sure what he would do if his stomach had any more stuff to splatter all over the floor.

"Thor!" Rin called out and Hiccup's ears rung, "Where's that water bag!"

It was then that Hiccup only noticed that the demon was at his side and holding him up as he dry heaved onto the cave floor. When the retching finally stopped Hiccup sagged and it was only Rin's grip on his shoulder that kept him from collapsing.

"Thor!" Rin called again and this time a small voice from the mouth of the cave shouted out in reply.

"But it's my roll-y thing!" the childish voice said, "You said I could have it."

"I never said that! Just get over here, will ya?"

"Bring it here, hatchling!" Toothless hissed and the baby immediately complied. A small red dragon the size of a Terror came into view and

with it Hiccup's water container that was usually strapped to Toothless' saddle. Rin took the bag from the babe's mouth and uncapped it for him to drink. Hiccup took it and drank but his eyes never left the hatchling. Finally drinking his full, feeling a million times better already, he wiped his mouth on his sleeve and addressed the Terror sized dragon.

"You're a Grapple Grounder." he stated and the hatchling tilted his head to the side. Its eyes suddenly going wide before he scrambled back and shot up a large boulder.

"Yes. What is it to you, human?" Hiccup was taken aback. A Grapple Grounder! He couldn't remember the last time Berk saw one of those reclusive dragons. They were said to be Eastern dragons and it wasn't often that their migratory patterns brought them so far north.

"Watch your tongue." Toothless scolded and the little dragon shook his scales in defiance.

"I don't have to listen to you Night's Fury. You are not my alpha or even flock." the tiny dragon's eyes flashed and Hiccup found himself surprised and, if he had to admit, a little impressed. There weren't many species that would go against Toothless. Unfortunately Toothless didn't share the same opinion, he tensed under and his chest rumbled.

"Oi, Sparky." Rin cut in as he stood up and settled back in his spot on the other side of the fire, "Stop messing with the dragon ten times bigger than you; it's stupid."

The Grapple Grounder, much to Hiccup's amazement, immediately eased out of his challenging pose and shot down the boulder to climb on Rin's shoulders. He curled excitedly around the demon's head and shoulders, chatting the entire time.

"You'll never guess what I found Rin! A Feather Prey's nest! And it had three blue eggs in it! Oooh, they tasted really good too but then the mother came and chased me out of the tree so I had to find something else to eat. That reminds me where's the food you were supposed to have? You said if I brought the leaves _you _would get the food."

Rin wilted slightly and laughed, though it sounded extremely fake, "Well about that. I was thinking about getting us a nice tasty boar but then something came up and I had to come back to the cave."

"Liar," Toothless hummed, "He found a boar but couldn't kill it. Could you, demon? Honestly, you steal one of our young but then you can't even provide for him."

"Steal one of their young?" Hiccup echoed and eyed Rin suspiciously, "Was that why you came to Berk? To steal a dragon hatchling?"

That would make sense after all. Dragons were much easier to train and bond to when they were young and impressionable. Not to mention the fact that if the demons ever decided that they wanted to attack Midgard then they would be practically unstoppable on the backs of dragons. Apparently that wasn't the case though as Rin's eyes

narrowed and his mouth went thin.

"Hey, I'm just as much of a victim as you are! I didn't ask to get dumped on this rock! All I wanted to do was collect our damn pay cheque from Mephisto but _noooo. _What do I get instead? I get shit dumped onto my head, eaten by a clock and then attacked by a bunch of crazies on dragons for just being here." seeing as most of that went over his head Hiccup latched onto the only thing he caught.

"We aren't 'crazies'!" He said with an indignant shout and Rin's brow twitched irritably.

"Was that the only thing you caught?" Hiccup flushed and Rin threw his hands up in defeat, "Whatever. Now I'd appreciate it if you don't tell your chain happy friends back there about me. Id like to live to see myself getting home, if you don't mind."

The image of the villagers pulling the chains around Rin's neck flashed through his mind and he suddenly felt a wave of shame for their actions. Rin hadn't done anything wrong and they had very nearly choked him to death. Hiccup felt even worse after the realization that even after all that Rin had still decided to help him out with the tiny demons and clear his lungs of their taint.

"Listen-" Hiccup started but Rin held up his hand for him to stop.

"You don't have to apologize for your friends back there..." Hiccup felt some of the guilt lifting, "...I'm sort of used to this type of treatment, me being a half-demon and all."

Damn, now he felt ten times worse.

"Half demon?" Hiccup asked, his curiosity overtaking the shame he felt. Rin sighed.

"Yeah that's me but we don't have time for a story today," he gestured to the mouth of the cave, "It's already dark out. I'm sure people are starting to wonder where you are."

Hiccup's eyebrows knit in confusion and he hobbled over to the entrance, sure enough the sun had set and the stars were becoming clear. Had he really been gone this long?

"Oden... If Dad doesn't kill me, Astrid will." Hiccup moaned and rushed to climb onto Toothless. They didn't take flight immediately though, instead Hiccup stared at Rin for a moment. "Uhhh Thanks for-for umm"

"For not eating you? For not killing you and using your guts as a necklace? For putting up with your dragon's awful personality?" Rin supplied, looking exceedingly amused at Hiccups rising blush. Clearing his throat Hiccup busied himself with a piece of loose string on his saddle.

"Uhhh yeah... for all that. Is there anything I can do for you in return." Rin shook his head giving an amused huff.

"It's fine. I'm glad that you're okay." Rin paused and narrowed his

eyes in thought, "Wait. You can actually do something for me."

-o0o-

"_Are you sure he's okay, Sir Pheles? Was the mission that important that he couldn't come home before he left?" _ Yukio's worried voice said through the speaker.

"Of course Okumura-kun~! I apologize for not giving Rin-kun enough time to send a message back to you but really was quite urgent a mission and I assured him that I would pass on his farewell message in his stead."

"_Well... okay then. Do you have any idea when he'll be returning?"_

"At this point I am not sure but you shall be the very first person I call upon his arrival home."

"_Right. Thank you again Sir Pheles. Good bye."_ The line went dead and Mephisto had to forcefully relax his fingers lest he crush the phone in his hands. Glaring at the thing he stiffly slammed it onto his desk.

This was ridiculous! What kind of idiot gets himself thrown into another time by a clock?!

A very distraught Yukio Okumura had already phoned his office a minimum of six times before he could ignore it no longer. While normally he would've had no trouble lying to the young dragoon this was another matter entirely. He had a search to conduct and Yukio was distracting him from getting their little half-demon back! He hadn't the time to make up a believable cover story!

Bringing his eyes back to the large collection of lower class demons Mephisto couldn't help the irritation that bubbled up and out of him. "Well?" he snapped, "What are you waiting for? Get back to work!"

The demons all flinched and rushed to either collect one of the identical pieces of paper or scrambled to take their place in line. Once Mephisto had found that Rin had been swallowed by his (very broken) clock, he had immediately set to work. Mephisto wasn't quite sure where to send his demon's but settled on the plan of giving each one a note and sending them into the clock at different time settings. The plan was that eventually he would find the correct setting when the demon's either returned to tell him the good news or were destroyed too often to be counted as a fluke. So far he had already sent about four hundred demons through the clock and it didn't look as if any of them were having any luck.

Hopefully they would find Rin before anything happened to the fool or Yukio got too suspicious and barged into his office.

-o0o-

**Uhhh hi... long time no see. Its been what? Just over half a year? *winces* whoops. I guess I could tell you how i've been terribly busy but I doubt many of you would care much for my excuses seeing as

they're just that. Excuses. **

**The reviews that came in really guilted me into writing after quite a few of you either asked me if I was dropping the story or shouted me for not updating. **

**Anyway! You guys still have to tell me what you think! Don't hesitate to drop a review! **

End
file.